Dr A H Strickler
14Febr82

The Messenger.

"As the Truth is in Jesus."

VOL. LI.—NO. 1. PHILADELPHIA, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1882. WHOLE NO. 2463.

THE MESSENGER.

ISSUED WEEKLY
BY THE
PUBLICATION BOARD
OF THE
Reformed Church in the United States
REV. P. S. DAVIS, D. D.,
Editor-in-Chief.
OFFICE, 907 ARCH STREET

TERMS.

$2.20 a year in advance, postage included. Six copies will be sent to address of one person for one year on receipt of $11.00. No subscriptions received for less than six months.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS:—No papers discontinued, except at the option of the publishers, unless orders are *sent direct to the Publication Office*, at least two weeks before the time subscribed for expires, and all arrearages are paid. The publishers will not be responsible for notice given to an agent or postmaster. When arrearages for more than a year are due, they are collected through a solicitor.

The date appended to the subscriber's name on the slip pasted on each paper, indicates the day and year to which he has paid. Renewals should be made, if possible, before this date transpires. If two issues are allowed to be sent after that time, and a notice to discontinue is then received, the subscriber will be charged for the six months commenced.

☞Remittances should be made by check, draft, Post money order, or registered letter. If sent in any other way, it is at the risk of the sender. All checks, drafts, and Post money orders must be made payable to the order of the "*Reformed Church Publication Board*," and not to the Editor-in-Chief or any other individual.

Advertisements strictly consistent with the character of a religious paper will be inserted, to a limited extent, for full information please address HARRY DEWAR, Advertising Manager, No. 802 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

Poetry.

CHRIST'S PRESENTATION.

In His temple now behold Him,
See the long-expected Lord;
Ancient prophets had foretold Him,
God has now fulfilled His word.
Now to praise Him His redeemed
Shall break forth with one accord,

In the arms of her who bore Him,
Virgin pure, behold Him lie,
While His aged saints adore Him
Ere in perfect faith they die.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Lo! th' Incarnate God most high.

Jesus, by Thy presentation,
Thou who cam'st in lowly mien,
Make us see our great salvation,
Make our hearts all pure within.
O present us in Thy glory
To Thy Father pure and clean.

Johann Scheffler, (Angelus Silesius).

Communications.

For The Messenger.

AN ARGUMENT FOR THE INSPIRATION OF THE SCRIPTURES.

There are many arguments for the inspiration of the Scriptures. The chief, undoubtedly, is that which is drawn from the contemplation of our Lord Himself, "Ye search the Scriptures, and in them ye think ye have eternal life, and they are they which testify of me." The Scriptures point us to Christ, and He illumines them for our understanding *as the Word of God*.

There is one form of this argument, which is perhaps more external and easy of apprehension, which we think carries in it a great deal of force. Of course it has been noticed in the *Evidences*, but not brought out perhaps in its full force. It is, *The Testimony of Jesus*. This, we are told, is the spirit of prophecy. Our present purpose is to use it, not in the depths of meaning included in those words, not in the sense that all Scripture bears testimony of Jesus, and thus authenticates itself as the Word of God to all who have faith in Jesus Christ as God manifest in the flesh. We refer now to the testimony which Jesus bears to the Scriptures as the Word of God. Let us briefly sketch the argument.

The world has been compelled to acknowledge the pure and holy character of our Lord in His life on earth. There are, indeed, those who assert that He was not perfect, that although He presented a high ideal of human character, yet it is possible to conceive of a still higher ideal. But these are exceptions. The world has never shown a fault in His life and character. Were such fault or imperfection made out, it would readily be laid hold of by unbelievers and used against Christianity. Even blasphemers grant that He was a good man. He challenged His enemies, "Which of you convinceth me of sin?" and they durst not answer Him. Especially does the moral purity of Christ stand forth, so that even those who will not acknowledge Him as God, concede that He was the best of men.

Christ read, studied, and understood, the Old Testament Scriptures. He publicly taught them. He quoted from them from *Genesis* to *Malachi*. He referred to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, David, Solomon, Jonah, and He was acquainted with the lives of those men as given in the Old Testament. And *He endorsed those Scriptures as the Word of God*. He endorsed them as a whole and in particular, and spoke of them with reverence as of the highest—supreme—authority. He corrected Jewish traditions, and referred to some things in the Mosaic law that were allowed because of the hardness of men's hearts. But He declared that not one jot or tittle of the law should pass away till all should be fulfilled. Never did He utter a word of correction or of warning in regard to the Scriptures, but always reverenced them.

Now, infidels say the Bible is an impure book. One of the most demonstrative and eloquent of them in our day, whom we will not name in this connection, makes this charge. Our Lord treats the Bible with reverence as a pure and holy book; this man says it is impure. Which testimony will we take? Will this infidel, who has obtained a bad notoriety by saying blasphemous things of God, boldly defying Him, *affirm that he is purer than Jesus?* We think not. He is indeed bold and defiant, blasphemously so, but he will not stand up before an audience and claim that he is better, purer, than Jesus. Is he a better judge of what is pure than Jesus? All will say no, a thousand times NO! Must we not, then, take the testimony of Jesus that the Bible is a pure book? And when this bold infidel says it is an impure book, draw the inference that *the impurity is in him*, not in the Bible. An impure man will find impurity in the purest and holiest mysteries of our human frame and our human life, but the impurity is in him, not in them. When, therefore, he pronounces the Bible impure, he pronounces judgment upon himself as an impure man!

Impure scenes and impure characters are referred to and described in the Bible. It could not be otherwise if it gives a faithful and true portrayal of human character, even the best. So in human literature we have the impurity of men portrayed. But the question to be considered is, not whether the characters described in such literature are impure, but whether they are impurely described, whether the authors themselves sanction the impurity, or describe it for the purpose of enticement. A man of truthfulness may introduce and describe untruthful characters, but in reading the description the reader feels that the writer himself is unstained with falsehood. The Bible was in the hands of the purest being that ever lived on this earth, and with full knowledge of all it contains, He pronounces it the Word of God. It seems to us that is enough to establish the divine inspiration of the Bible for all who have any capacity to judge of character and to weigh character. Place the testimony of our Lord on one side the scale, and the testimony of all the infidels that ever lived on the other, and all right-thinking men, even though they regard Jesus as only human, must concede that His testimony outweighs them all. We would indeed like to see how this most recent and boldest infidel would answer this question, in a case where his own moral purity must come in as a necessary condition for pronouncing on the purity of a book in its tendency when taken as a whole. We think his cheek would blanch before such a test; and yet it is the very one, after all, on which the weight of his testimony must depend. It may be said that there is language in the Bible which men would shrink from reading before a mixed audience, or before wife and children. So, too, there is language in science, in medical science, for instance, which is not suited for the popular ear, or popular reading. But does that argue that such science, and the writers of science, are impure?

The story of Jonah is sometimes referred to in a spirit of levity, and eminent Biblical scholars have stumbled at it,—not at the facts themselves recorded,—but as to the question, whether it intends to record actual facts or a mere popular myth or allegory. But how soon it is lifted above all question (whether above all difficulty or not) when Christ declares, "And as Jonah was in the whale's belly three days, so must the Son of man be three days in the heart of the earth." We instinctively feel that when He gives us His interpretation, it shuts out all cavil. Why? Because we all feel that His testimony is truth itself. "For this cause was I born, and for this end did I come into the world, that *I might bear witness to the truth*." Before that declaration even Pilate was compelled to say, "I find no fault in this man." When, therefore, Jesus bears witness to the truth, the inspiration, of the Holy Scriptures as the Word of God, shall poor, weak, sinful, men go about with the feeble torch of human reason to ascertain whether the Bible is an inspired book? No. The light of Him who is THE TRUTH illumines its pages with a heavenly radiance, HIS TESTIMONY prevails, and we respond, The Bible is not the word of man, but it is THE WORD OF GOD. A.

For the Messenger.

HOW CAN OUR CHURCH GAIN MORE INFLUENCE?

That there are different opinions concerning this, is well known. That the first condition, to exist and to acquire permanent and healthy influence over a nation, is, that the Church truly is, what and how it is to be, according to the Word of God, is an irrefragable thesis. But from this issue a large number of other theses which must in no wise be forgotten.

If a Church aims to acquire a permanent influence over a nation it dare not stand still, by the personal piety of its members and imagine that it is doing enough if it supplies them with the means of grace, and that nothing more has been entrusted to it. The Master of the Church has set the task of conquering the world. To do this, the Church dare leave no expedient which presents itself, unused, to extend its activity for the benefit of mankind and to the honor of the great Head of the Church.

Above all, the Church has, therefore, next to the care that its members become truly pious and lead a Christian life, received the task of extending its bounds and to conquer such territory, as is not yet in its possession, and to wrest from the hands of the enemies of the Church what has been lost. What we here have especially in view is, science, which has been, to a very great part, wrested from the Church. The Church dare not permit unbelief to take the lead in it. It is not only the duty of the Church to study science in a Christian sense and spirit, as it agrees with the doctrines of the Church, but also to teach it accordingly. For the very reason that the Church has permitted, that this has been snatched away to such an extent as it is, it so often finds itself in our day, in the position of suffering loss. Whatever is holy to the Church it has to hear and see scoffed and calumniated.

It is in our day necessary that we not only care for a suitable education of our ministers, but also for that of the people entrusted to us, in order that its worldly education may be in a Christian manner and not according to the spirit of the times. To accomplish this, our ecclesiastical literature, which is only read by Church-loving people, is not sufficient. Therefore the Church has to take into its own hands profane literature, and has to make provisions, that something is offered to the reading public, which leads not from, but into the Church, and which does not undermine; but awakens and strengthens faith in God. The Church has the sacred duty, not only of keeping renown at a distance, but also of giving wholesome medicine and food. To accomplish this the Church needs instruments which have been educated by the Church. The Church dare not look at it indifferently, but others, who have not the best of humanity, but the filling of their pockets in view, educate these national pedagogues as national destroyers and thereby cause irreparable loss to individual souls and the kingdom of God. The Church has not only the sacred right; but also the sacred duty, to take the first place in the education of the individual member as well, as whole humanity. Though the Roman Church has many things we can not approve, we must, without many corrections, assent to its maxim: that the schools belong to the Church and that the education of mankind must, in every respect, be guided and approved by the Church, if a nation shall remain, or become church-loving, and that the Church cannot entrust the young people to its enemies, without inflicting a severe loss to itself.

To attain and accomplish this, it is necessary, that the Church does not only provide for the elementary education, by means of Christian common schools; but it must also be supplied with a sufficient number of scientific institutions, which are, as much as possible, equally divided over the land, in order to operate equally on the whole population. The Church will in this manner be enabled to receive such, as otherwise would seek their education in an institution which is conducted by infidels, into its own institutions and to dispose them favorably to the interests of our Church. From this an incalculable blessing would issue forth to the Church.

It is a matter of fact, that those men attain the greatest influence, who perseveringly aspire to an end which serves to elevate and promote a whole commonwealth. In the same manner will a church gain influence over a whole nation among which it labors, if it takes an interest in instructing and advising it in such a way as its wants require. No ecclesiastical body will secure to itself a permanent influence, especially in this country, that confines its activity to the gathering and founding of congregations; it will always lose the most enlightened and best of its members, either to other Churches or infidelity. To such a Church the future does not belong, because it has not the young people. It can maintain itself best in such countries or parts of a country, where there is no desire for schools and higher education, and the young people have but the desire, not to become wiser and not to know more than their forefathers did.

The point, that only that Church has a future and will gain influence, which has the coming and under its eyes growing generation under its fostering care, especially those among it who have higher aspirations, verifies itself always and everywhere. Never has any Church suffered loss, by establishing lower and higher schools, and, what is again of great consequence, by appointing men from its midst as teachers. But in every instance will a Church rapidly decline, or, at the least, it will make in spite of all exertions, no noteworthy progress, as soon as it neglects scholastic affairs, and either depends upon others, who will not work to its advantage, or perhaps fancies the idea, that all science is from Satan. Where such ideas are fostered, it is evident that the will of God, that the ministry of the gospel and the schools be maintained, is not yet understood and that the golden, silver and paper God, who will forsake His worshipers in the hour of distress, has become one's God. Such can only be pitied and the Lord entreated for their enlightening.

That the labor among a godless people, does not thrive and can not stand the test, if no schools are established, and not only lower but also higher schools, where those that have the desire to go beyond ordinary knowledge, find an opportunity to quench their thirst for knowledge, all missionary societies, have, from the beginning of missionary labor among the heathens, very well comprehended and carried out. That they were right, their success sufficiently shows.

That a Church is strengthened and built up, if it has its own scientific schools, which it fosters carefully and supports them well, the history of our own Church in this country shows. Not a small part of the growth of our Church in the Atlantic and middle States is due to the founding and extension of a chain of Colleges. In consequence of the founding of these institutions by our forefathers, our Church became better known and more influential among the inhabitants of those States. From that time a great many occasions presented themselves to find access to a part of the population, between which and our Church was, and would ever have been a barrier. Every thoughtful person had to come to the conclusion, that it was more advisable to entrust his children to the care of an institution, which is ruled by a Church, where they would be better guarded against pernicious influences, than in an institution that was founded to oppose the Church. The consequence was, that even such as cared nothing for the Church, entrusted their children to the Church for education. Hereby the opportunity was offered to the Church, to win for itself, many who became prominent men, and to exercise through them an influence over others. Certainly have by such, as sought but secular education in our schools, seeds been scattered, which brought us, as a Church, an abundant harvest; so that we to-day have, as a blessing of our institutions, flourishing congregations in cities, into which we would, without our institutions, have never found an open door.

Shall our Church accomplish the work assigned to it by God? Then it dare in no wise neglect the education of the young. Our Church has not only to support those parochial schools and colleges, which are already existing, but it has also to establish others, in states where they are needed, at the right time. It must have open eyes for its wants and take hold of the matter with open hands. It must bear its affairs on a praying heart. It would be inexcusable to arrest the growth of institutions already existing, and also not to found such new institutions, as become necessary, for the building up of the Church. It would thereby cut the arteries of its life (further existence). Only to that Church to which the young people belong, belongs the future.

For The Messenger.

SCRAPS BY THE WAY.

Our candidates for the ministry generally get a thorough theological training. It may perhaps not be said that they come away from the Seminary, the majority of them at least, with a proper sense of the character and of the extent of the pastoral work that they will be required to perform. Often they lack the capacity of using their scholastic and theological equipments in a practical telling way, simply because they have not been led to understand the specific requisites of ministerial labor in these days. Let not the learned professors now presume, that some one is growling at them for not doing that which it is not in the power of man to do, namely, *lift the mind and energies of every pupil to a full level with the high calling for which he is preparing*. Professors, no doubt, find themselves much in the same dilemma here, as do the pastors who, with all their ability and care, cannot train all candidates for Church membership up to the ideal of a well rounded Christian life. The Lord Jesus Christ Himself even did not see fit to accomplish so wholesale a work, and certainly no reasonable person would either expect or demand it at the hands of divinity professors.

Still it may be fairly and respectfully suggested, that the culture of the Seminary might perhaps be more productive of the rich fruits of a warm and well organized congregational activity, than it is now so often found to be, if the theological curriculum would take in a little more of the fresh and vigorous spirit of the times. At any rate, special pains might be taken to inspire the student with a sense of the necessity of doing a vast deal more than preach, catechise, confirm, administer the sacraments, visit the sick, and do other acts of the kind in systematic routine. To organize and develop the talents and resources of a people is of immense account, and this may be neglected where the pastoral routine as above suggested may be punctually, or at least habitually, gone through with. We need broadly cultured ministers, but together with this they should be men who understand both the science and the art of government, and who are capable of unifying the benevolent energies of our people. It is just in this one thing that we have been lacking all the while, and as long as we do not make a specific and determined effort to be more practical in putting forward our sublime Christo-centric ideas, we shall suffer from leanness and dry-rot in our religious affairs.

Would it not be well, then, for professors, pastors, and all, to shake the dust out of our theology and to give it a vigorous baptism in the high tide of modern church life? In this way we can make it all the more potent and effective, and give it a lease of life that it can never have while it keeps running on so narrowly in its habitual objective ruts.

I. E. G.

Family Reading.

THE LORD MAY COME TO-DAY.

Busy servant in the vineyard,
Earnest soldier in the fray,
Cheer your heart and upward glancing,
Think—the Lord may come to-day.

Weak and weary troubled mourner,
Fearing danger in the way,
Be no longer sinful, caring,
For the Lord may come to-day.

Are you busy, all too busy,
With the things that fade away—
Wealth, or fame, or gain, or pleasure?
Drop them, He may come to-day.

Or an idler in the vineyard,
Others pass you on the way?
Wake, and live as an immortal,
Lest the Lord should come to-day.

Is the blood upon your garments?
Have you on the pure array?
Naught can hide a guilty sinner,
If in light He come to-day.

Are you waiting for the Master?
He is surely on His way:
We can almost hear His footfall—
Blessed Jesus! come to-day.

—*London Christian.*

SETTING UP THE TABERNACLE.

"On the first day of the first month shalt thou set up the tabernacle."—Exod. xi. 2.

And why was this period chosen for the erection? God has always reasons for His conduct; but He does not always "give account of any of His matters." We may however make two remarks here. First. Things that are the same to God, are not the same to us. Our goodness extendeth not to Him: religion regards the exigencies of man: and when these are subserved, its provisions will be needless. John saw no temple in the New Jerusalem. All places are alike to God; yet we never feel in a common dwelling the solemnity that seizes us in the sanctuary. The first day of the year was no more to God than any other; but it would render the service more memorable and impressive to the people. Therefore says he, "On the first day of the first month shalt thou set up the tabernacle." Secondly. It is well to begin a new year with some good work; and to commence serving God after a new manner.

And have *we* no tabernacle to set up on this first day of this first month?

Let us begin the year with solemn reflection—and say, with Job, "When a few years are come I shall go the way whence I shall not return." Let me not only believe this; but think of it, and feel the importance of the sentiment. Yes in a little time I shall be no more seen. How—where—shall I be disposed of? The seasons will return as before: but the places that now know me will know me no more forever. Will this be a curse? or a blessing? If I die in my sins I shall return no more to my possessions and enjoyments; to the calls of mercy; to the throne of grace; to the house of prayer! If I die in the Lord I shall, O blessed impossibility! return no more to these thorns and briers; to this vain and wicked world; to this aching head; to this throbbing heart; to these temptations and troubles, and sorrows and sins.

Let us begin the year with self-inspection—and say, with the chief butler, "I do remember my faults this day." We are prone to think of the failings of our fellow-creatures, and often imagine because we are free from *their* faults that we are faultless. But we may have other faults; we may have worse; and while a mote is in our brother's eye a beam may be in our own. Let us be open to conviction. Let us deal faithfully with our own hearts. Let us not compare ourselves with others, and especially the more vile of our fellow-creatures; but with our advantages; with our knowledge; with our professions; with the law of God.

Let us begin the year with a determination to abandon whatever appears sinful—and say, with Elihu, "If I have done iniquity, I will do no more." Should the evil course or the evil passion solicit, let it plead in vain while the Saviour-Judge says—"If thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell. And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell."

Begin the year with pious and personal dedication—and say, with David, "Lord, I am thine; save me." Through Him who is the way yield yourselves unto God. It is your reasonable service. He has infinite claims to you. You will never be truly your own till you are His.

Begin the year with relative religion; and if the worship of God has never been established in your family, now commence it—and say, with Joshua, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." A family without prayer is like a house without a roof. It is uncovered and exposed; and we know who has threatened to pour out His fury upon the families that call not upon His Name.

Begin the year with fresh concern to be useful—and ask, with Saul of Tarsus, "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" Let me look at my condition; my resources; my opportunities. How can I glorify God and promote the welfare of my fellow-creatures? Is there not a Bible to spread? Are there not missionaries to support? Are there none perishing for lack of knowledge that I can myself instruct? Have I no irreligious neighbors to reclaim? Are there no poor to relieve? No widows and fatherless to visit?

Begin the year with more conduct in the arrangement of your affairs, and resemble Ezra and his brethren, who "did according to the custom, as the duty of every day required." God has said let every thing be done decently and in order. Much of your comfort will arise from regularity in your meals, in your devotions, in your callings; and your piety will be aided by it. Have a place to receive every thing; an end to simplify it; a rule to arrange it. Leave nothing for the morrow that ought to be discharged to-day. Sufficient for each period will be its own claims; and your mind ought to be always at liberty to attend to fresh engagements.

Finally. Time, this short, this uncertain, this all-important time, upon every instant of which eternity depends, will not allow of our trifling away any of its moments. Resolve therefore to redeem it. Gather up its fragments that nothing be lost. Especially rescue it from needless sleep; and if you have hitherto accustomed yourself to the shameful indulgence of lying late in bed, begin the new year with the habit of early rising; by which you will promote your health and improvement of every kind, and live much longer than others in the same number of days—and say, with David, "My voice shalt Thou hear in the morning, O, Lord: in the morning will I direct my prayer unto Thee, and will look up."

And if this be your determination, the season will be the date of your happiness. God Himself says, "From this day will I bless you."—*Rev. Wm. Jay.*

THE EXPLANATION.

To my own mind there is only one solution for the mysteries of life, and only one support for the days of terrible affliction. The only relief I can find is in the certainty that this life is not the end, but simply and only the *preparatory school* for the real and the endless life that is beyond. The moment that I accept this truth fully and hold it firmly I find solid ground for my feet and light for my sorrowing soul. Then I discover that the whole journey of the believer is "portioned out" to him, and that the dark tunnel on the road is just as surely appointed wisely as is the most flowery mead or the happiest walk over the "Delectable Mountains." Nay, more. When we reach Heaven we may discover that the richest and deepest and most profitable experiences we had in this world were those which were gained in the very roads from which we shrunk back with dread. The bitter cups we tried to push away contained the medicines we most needed. The hardest lessons that we learn are those which teach us the most and best fit us for service here and glory hereafter. It is the easiest thing in the world to obey God when He commands us to do what we like, and to trust Him when the path is all sunshine. The real victory of faith is to trust God in the dark and through the dark. Let us be assured of this, that if the lesson and the rod are of His appointing, and that His all-wise love has engineered the deep tunnels of trial on the heavenward road, He will never desert us during the discipline. The vital thing for us is not to deny and desert Him.—*Dr. T. L. Cuyler.*

"I REST IN THE PROMISES."

So writes my good friend. She is the widow of a clergyman, of four-score years. Her husband and her children all, long ago, went before her to the unseen world. She is far away from her loved native country. She lives in her humble cottage all alone; and yet she is not alone, for the Father is with her. She is denied the privilege of the sanctuary, for which her soul longeth; and yet she is by no means comfortless. She is one of the most happy persons with whom it is my lot to be acquainted. It is my pleasure to receive frequent letters from her, all of which are written in a cheerful strain. She speaks of the loving-kindnesses and the tender mercies of the Lord towards her. In her last she says, "Surely there is nothing equal to the consolations of the gospel. I rest in the promises, and say with the Psalmist, 'I will trust, and not be afraid.'"

A good foundation indeed to rest upon, as all who have made trial can testify. The divine promises are "exceeding great and precious." They meet us in all our wants. They meet us in all our needs. And they are the promises of an almighty, faithful and unchanging God. Oh, if we would only take Him at His word, and rest upon it, how comforting it would be! how we should be cheered and sustained in our every trial, and go on our way rejoicing! —*Christian Treasury.*

THE FRIAR'S CONFESSION.

It was during the gloomy midnight of popery that, in a convent at Basle, a poor Carthusian friar, named Martin, wrote the following touching confession within his lonely cell:

"O most merciful God! I know that I cannot be saved and satisfy Thy righteousness, otherwise than by the merits, by the innocent passion, and by the death of Thy dearly beloved Son. * * * Holy Jesus, all my salvation is in Thy hands; Thou canst not turn away from me the hands of Thy love, for they have created me and redeemed me. Thou hast written my name with an iron pen, in great mercy, and in an indelible manner, on Thy side, on Thy hands, and on Thy feet. * * * And if I cannot confess these things with my mouth, I confess them, at least, with my pen and with *my heart.*"

Then the good Carthusian friar placed his confession in a wooden box, and inclosed it in a hole in the wall of his cell, where it lay hidden hundreds of years.

The old convent where he wrote his living words had well nigh crumbled away, and the friar's ashes had mingled with the dust, when, in the month of December, 1772, some workmen, in pulling down an old building that had formed part of the same Carthusian convent, stumbled on the box; and thus was brought to light the sweet confession, which no human eye had seen since it had been placed in that wall by the hand of the good man.

He being dead yet speaketh! Yes, he speaks to you and to me, dear reader. There is a voice uttering the worth of Jesus, sounding from the pious writing found in the crumbling walls of the old convent. Doubtless this "confession" was not written without prayer; it may be that the prayers of the worthy friar are being answered this very day! yes, even in you. Does not his confession to the alone worthiness of Jesus speak to your heart? Where have you found that which will satisfy the righteousness of God? Are these your words, "I know that I cannot be saved otherwise than by the death of Thy dearly beloved Son." If they are indeed the utterance of your soul, then read written on those hands, those feet, and that side, with the nails and with the spear, as with an iron pen, your own name. For it is written, "If thou shalt believe in *thy heart* on the Lord Jesus, and shalt confess with thy mouth that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."—*Moravian.*

A TALENT FOR WRETCHEDNESS.

There are fortunate people who have what may be called a talent for happiness. Theirs is the habit of looking on the bright side. However perplexing the situation, however hedged about with embarrassments and obstructed by hindrances, they either see beyond it halcyon skies and a smooth pathway, or they manage to extract the present sweetness from its bitterness. In reading two books of recent travel, one the record of a solitary woman's adventures in the East, the other of another woman's travels by herself in the West, I was struck by the contrast in the two experiences. The pages of one are sprinkled with sunshine, and her ink has a golden sparkle. Those of the other are acerb, complaining, and solemnly cynical. But we need not go to books for our illustrations. Cheerfulness is in part dependent on health and temperament, as well as on grace and Christian conscience. It is almost impossible to wear a radiant face when one has a deranged digestion, or to be equable and tranquil when the nervous fountains are in a state of exhaustion. Yet who does not know invalids whose rooms of suffering are full of a divine peace, and who cannot think of some who out of great tribulation have entered into a hallowed region which no storms invade? And on the other hand there are those who, regarded as to outward circumstances, appear to have everything in their favor, yet who manage to be so uniformly miserable that it may be assumed that they have a talent for wretchedness.

To be successfully wretched one must have a certain measure of self-love. Wounded vanity is a more potent faculty and a more subtile source of trouble than we sometimes imagine. The oversensitive woman who is always feeling slighted and neglected, who thinks her acquaintances and friends do not treat her as well as she deserves, and who goes about her home with a tearful, injured air, is not as uncommon as we wish she were. Nothing should be more resolutely discouraged in children than this touchiness of disposition, which is easily affronted and which is after all only a form of inordinate selfishness. I know young people who are so marred by this peculiarity of character, that in talking with them one has always the feeling of a sailor among quicksands. There is no predicting the unseen and unexpected shoals on which the conversational boat may strike. Unhappy themselves, these victims of morbidness make others unhappy, and go through the world without having the good times to which every honest and conscientious person is entitled.

It is easier to be wretched than to be cheerful, if we consent to let lower feelings rule us.

We may rise above our complaining words, by using the old-fashioned receipt of prayer and pains, or, yielding to them we may make ourselves as frost to the tender flowers of love and charity at home.—*Christian Intelligencer.*

MY WORK.

He crowned my life with blessings full and sweet,
In His great love He pardoned all my sin;
Then to His fold He led my wandering feet,
And bade me know the peace and joy within:
"Dear Lord," I cried, "I'll gladly work for Thee;"
His loving voice said only, "Follow Me."

He led me to His pastures green and fair,
Beside still waters oft He bade me stay;
But I, with heart all full of anxious care,
Murmured because He made so smooth the way,
Saying, "I have no work to do for Thee,"
"Child, this is work," He said, "to follow me."

Yet still I murmured, "Lord, the way is fair,
And it is very sweet to walk with Thee;
But shall Thy servant have no cross to bear?
No battle to be fought and won for Thee?"
And in His love, the half I could not see,
My Saviour gave this answer unto me,

"Are there no little crosses for each day?
No inward battles to be fought with sin?
Nothing to do to smooth another's way?
To help a soul the crown of life to win?
Hast thou remembered my great love for Thee,
And dost thou live each day, each hour for me?"

Then seeing all my need and sin and pride,
I knelt again before my Saviour's feet,
Praying for strength to follow by His side,
Praying for help, temptation's power to meet;
And now, each day, let my petition be,
Teach me, dear Lord, to follow after Thee.

—*Millie Colcord.*

MOSSES.

They are harmless little dwarfs that live among the big plants,—sometimes the size of a needle's eye; again, as long as your finger. Maiden-hair moss spreads over the turf in a soft cushion, with golden head and feathers, wearing a golden crown. The star-moss bears fruit like golden bells; and another, of yellowish-green, droops over great forest-trees. A hundred kinds grow on the house-tops, by the mountain-side, and in the woods and moors.

The roots are the frailest. A single one could not exist by itself. It dries up in the wind, withers in the sun, and is crushed, even by a light bird-step. But Providence kindly places the mosses in families; so—being of a spongy nature—they flourish and, even in a drought, grow rich by absorbing dew together. Mosses have been called "the good spirits of the forest." They nurse the shelterless in cold winter, taking into their warm bed acorns and all the nuts. The butterfly, beetle, and spider find shelter; and the bear sometimes sleeps away his winter there.

Mosses watch over all the seeds, while they drink and germinate; and protect every living thing near them.

How grateful to the weary traveler on the mountain is a sight of mosses, that show him a soft bed to rest upon! How delightful to children, in a summer's ramble, to play among the green tufts, and take them home,—woven into beautiful garlands!

And so the mosses tell us a pretty story—how the feeblest of little beings, without strength of its own, by sweetly uniting with kindred spirits, may live and thrive, and finally become a great power upon the earth!—*From the German.*

Nothing in life has any meaning, except as it draws us further into God, and presses us more closely in Him. The world is no better than a complication of awkward riddles, or a gloomy storehouse of disquieting mysteries, unless we look at it by the light of this simple truth, that the eternal God is blessedly the last and only end of every soul of man.—*Faber.*

SELF-CONSCIOUSNESS.

Near the close of the summer season, in a pleasant summer retreat, a new comer found the entire company of the little hotel preparing to give a *fete* in honor of a young lady who was about to leave them. The young men had brought a band and caterer from the city, marquees were erected on the lawn, the house was wreathed with flowers; everybody had some little farewell gift ready for "Miss Betty." The stranger was curious.

"Is this Miss Betty very beautiful?" he asked his friend.

"No, I think not; it never occurred to me before, but I believe she is homely."

"A great heiress, then?"

"On the contrary, a poor artist."

"Brilliant, witty? Highly intellectual?"

"No, indeed; she never said a fine thing in her life. But she is the best listener I ever knew. Neither is she learned or clever or fascinating; but really she is the most lovable girl in the world."

"What is her charm, then?"

Betty's friend looked perplexed, "I do not know," he hesitated, "unless it is that she never thinks of herself."

The charm of this woman was an absolute absence of all self-consciousness. She was neither vain nor modest. She simply forgot that there was such a person as Betty Gordon, and with her warm heart and quick sympathies threw herself into the lives of others. It was a peculiar, powerful attraction, and brought the little world about her to her feet.—*Youth's Companion.*

It is not always the strength we ask that is given us, but that which we need. Our asking is often greatly at fault, but our need, as determined by the Lord, is never wrong.—*United Presbyterian.*

Selections.

The man who revenges every wrong that is done him has no time for anything else. If you make your life a success, you can afford to let the dogs bark as you go by.

We see a world in a grain of sand,
And a heaven in a wild flower,
Hold infinite in the palm of our hand,
And eternity in an hour.

—*William Blake.*

God means every man to be happy, be sure
He sends us no sorrows that have not some cure.
Our duty down here is to do, not to know,
Live as though life were earnest, and life will be so. —*Owen Meredith.*

An effluence rather than an influence unconsciously flows forth from a noble, saintly life. The late Rev. W. Arnot, speaking of Dr. James Hamilton, of London, said: "I would place the three things about him in the relation of good, better, best. His preaching was good; his books were better; his life was best."—*Wm. Ormiston.*

How near to me, my God, Thou art!
Felt in the throbbing of my heart—
Nearer than my own self to me;
Nothing is real, without Thee.

Thou fillest my being's hidden springs;
Thou givest my wishes heavenward wings;
I live Thy life, I breathe Thy breath,
And in Thy presence is no death!

—*Lucy Larcom.*

Love makes long service short, and hard service easy. Nothing is pain which love does. And this is Gospel obedience. It is faith working by love which refines duty into grace—the commandments are exalted into privileges—the ordinances become happy means of fellowship with God. The believer meets God in them, and by free converse he exercises and improves his love. He draws near to God, and God draws near to him in prayer, in praise, in hearing the Word, and the Lord's Supper, and in all Sabbath duties. In these ways God manifests His gracious presence, and the believer rejoices in it. God communicates His grace, and the believer receives it with thankfulness.—*W. Romaine.*

Useful Hints and Recipes.

POTATO PUDDING.—One pound of potatoes, boiled and well mashed, one-quarter of a pound of butter stirred in while warm, two ounces of sugar, the rind of half a lemon chopped fine, with the juice, a teacupful of milk. Butter the tin, put in the mixture, and bake in a moderate oven for half an hour; two eggs may be added.

OATMEAL PUDDING.—Mix two ounces of fine Scotch oatmeal in a quarter of a pint of milk; add to it a pint of boiling milk; sweeten to taste, and stir over the fire for ten minutes; then put in two ounces of sifted bread crumbs; stir until the mixture is stiff; then add one ounce of shred suet and one or two well-beaten eggs; add a little flavoring or grated nutmeg; put the pudding in a buttered dish and bake slowly for an hour.

BOILED CHICKEN.—Stuff the chicken as for roasting. A good dressing is made by chopping half a pint of oysters and mixing them with bread crumbs, butter, pepper, salt, thyme, and wet with milk or water. Baste about the chicken a thin cloth, the inside of which has been dredged with flour, and put it to boil in cold water with a teaspoonful of salt in it. Skim while boiling. For a moderate sized chicken an hour and a half or two hours will be sufficient. Serve with oyster sauce, or egg sauce, as you prefer.

Miscellaneous.

THE LONG AGO.

BAYARD TAYLOR.

Oh! a wonderful stream is the river Time,
As it runs through the realm of tears,
With a faultless rhythm and a musical rhyme
And a broader sweep and a surge sublime,
As it blends in the ocean of years!

How the winters are drifting like flakes of snow,
And the summers like birds between,
And the years in the sheaf, how they come and they go
On the river's breast with its ebb and its flow,
As it glides in the shadow and sheen!

There's a magical isle up the river Time,
Where the softest of airs are playing.
There's a cloudless sky and a tropical clime,
And a song as sweet as a vesper chime,
And the Junes with the roses are straying.

And the name of this isle is the "Long Ago,"
And we bury our treasures there;
There are brows of beauty and bosoms of snow,
There are heaps of dust—oh! we loved them so—
There are trinkets and tresses of hair.

There are fragments of songs that nobody sings,
There are parts of an infant's prayer,
There's a lute unswept and a harp without strings,
There are broken vows and pieces of rings,
And the garments our loved used to wear.

There are hands that are waved when the fairy shore
By the fitful mirage is lifted in air,
And we sometimes hear through the turbulent roar
Sweet voices we heard in the days gone before,
When the wind down the river was fair.

Oh! remembered for aye be that blessed isle,
All the day of our life until night;
And when evening glows with its beautiful smile,
And our eyes are closing in slumbers awhile,
May the greenwood of soul be in sight.

NEW YEAR'S DAY.

There are three natural phenomena which afford divisions of time: First, the rotation of the earth on its axis, which gives rise to the solar day—that is, the interval between the periods when the sun comes to the same meridian or line drawn directly north and south; second, the time from new moon to new moon, or from full moon until it again appears with its whole surface illuminated; third the revolution of the earth around the sun causing the seasons and marking the period called a year. As the time which elapses between one full moon and the next following it could be more easily observed than any other change, and this was found to be nearly equal to thirty solar days, and twelve of these periodical appearances of that body brought the different seasons at nearly the same time; the year was made to consist of twelve lunations, or of three hundred and sixty days. Hence the reason why the circle was divided, as it still continues to be, into three hundred and sixty equal parts, called degrees.

The first approximation, however, to the true length of the year was made by means of the stylus or gnomon, probably the first astronomical instrument. This was merely a rod or pole set perpendicularly, which cast a shadow on a level plain. It was then found that there was one period when the shadow was longes; another when it was shortest and two periods, the equinoxes, when it was of the same length. It was also observed that the interval between one of those and its return was about the one sixth of a lunation, or five days more than twelve lunar months. This difference between the civil year obtained from the phases of the moon, and the astronomical year, deduced by the aid of the gnomon and other means, led to various methods o adjusting them to each other. The Egyptians, Chaldeans and Assyrians, as the Mohammedans still do, reckoned by lunar months, twelve of which composed their year, while the Mexicans, for some unknown reason, divided their year into eighteen parts. The Greeks, as early as the time of Solon, who flourished in the sixth century before the Christian era, endeavored to make the calendar or lunar year and the astronomical agree by adding a month to every four years, which was too much, and was probably rectified by observing the ripening of the fruits. Numa, the great Roman lawgiver, who died B. C. 672, added January and February to the year, which before had consisted of only ten months. He also made some reformation in the calendar, which by the time of Julius Cæsar, had fallen into so much of confusion and had so far varied as to make the days set apart for floral offerings to the gods and the seasons in which flowers were produced entirely disagree. He, therefore, as Pontifex Maximus, Chief Priest, introduced B. C. 46, what is called the Julian Calendar. The year was made to consist of 365 days and increase every fourth year by counting the sixth day before the first of March twice. Hence the name bissextilis (twice the sixth). But the tropical year, or period from one equinox to the same equinox again, is not exactly 365 days and six hours, as Julius Cæsar supposed, but between ten and eleven minutes less. This small fraction in the course of a century amounted to three-fourths of a day. It thus caused vernal equinox to fall earlier every year, and Pope Gregory XIII., being desirous that it should fall on or near the 21st of March, the day on which it happened when the Council of Nice was held, in 325, directed that the day succeeding the 4th of October, 1582, instead of being called the 5th should be denominated the 15th, thus correcting the error of ten days which had arisen between 325 and 1582. He also ordered that February should be made to consist of twenty-nine days in all years the number of which was exactly divisible by four but not by one hundred, and in every century which could be evenly divided by 400. By this arrangement the difference between the civil and astronomical time amounts to only a day in nearly 3,600 years. The New Style, as it is called, was immediately adopted in all Catholic countries, but in England and her colonies the Old Style was retained until 1752. As the error then amounted to eleven days, Parliament enacted that the 3d of September, 1752, should be reckoned the 14th. The new style was adopted in Denmark and Sweden in 1758, and is now used in all Christian countries except Russia, where it is said, measures are being taken to introduce it. But if the length of the year has varied at different periods, and among different nations, the time of its commencement has also been far from uniform. In many countries there have been two beginnings of that period, the one civil and the other ecclesiastical.

The Romans began their year with March, the period at which military operations were usually commenced by that warlike people. In most Christian countries two beginnings of the year prevailed for several centuries. One of these, the astronomical, began when the earth was at its perihelion or point nearest to the sun, corresponding to the present 1st of January, and the other at the Annunciation, 25th of March. The ancient French historians reckoned their era from the death of St. Martin, A. D. 401 or 402, and began their year the next day after Easter. They did not begin to reckon from January until 1564 by virtue of an ordinance of Charles IX. In England there were also two periods at which the year was commenced—one the astronomical, on the 1st of January and the other at the 25th of March, though the 25th of December and the 1st of March were sometimes used. Hence in old records the interval between these two periods is generally written with a double date as January, 1735 36. By an act of Parliament in 1752 the first of January was made the beginning of the year for all purposes, though it is said, such is the force of custom, that the year reckoned from the Annunciation was used in many transactions until quite a recent period. The same methods of reckoning the year were followed in all the English colonies that were adopted in the mother country.

Although the time of commencing the year has varied, yet most nations have agreed in welcoming its first day with votive offering and rejoicings. The Jews regarded it as the anniversary of Adam's birth and celebrated it with entertainments. The Romans made it a holiday dedicated to Janus. From the Romans the custom of making presents was borrowed by Christian nations. At present New Year's Day is appropriated to receptions by officials and to receiving and returning calls and in extending the bounds of kind feelings and hospitality. While Christmas brings together scattered households and contributes so much to the enjoyment of the young, New Year's Day is devoted by those of matured years to a review of the past, the arrangements of business and social relaxation. It is a day of good resolutions, of the commencement of diaries which are soon thrown aside and forgotten, and of hopes too seldom realized.

Science and Art.

OLD PAINTINGS PHOTOGRAPHED.—Every painting of the great masters in Rome has been photographed, and some of the photographs are sold for one cent. The well-known dealer, Piale, keeps one million of them on hand.

THE DIOSCOPE.—One of the marvels of the late electrical exhibition at Paris was an instrument called the dioscope. It is a companion instrument to the telephone, doing for the eye what the latter instrument does for the ear. An objective lens is fitted in a theatre or some similar place, and by means of an electric wire communication is established with a small white glass plate in a room at any distance. By excluding all light from the latter room, a complete reflection of what is passing in the former one can be seen.

ENGINEERING AT THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT.—Colonel Casey, who has charge of the work now being done on the Washington Monument, recently said to a reporter of *The Star* of that city, that nowhere in the world is there such mechanical appliances as we have in this monument. The last course of stone laid weighed 170 tons. This 170 tons was raised vertically a distance of 245 feet, and the course was laid in fifteen hours. In other words, two feet of this monument were built in that time. Very few have any idea of the amount of stone and the amount of labor required. The stone laid since the work was resumed, if taken down and spread out, would cover the entire monument lot. At a distance the monument looks small; the yard-arms on the derricks on top look like broom splints; but when one gets nearer them, he sees how large they are, how wide the structure is, and gets some notion of the work.

Personal.

Pope Leo is reported as failing in health. His voice is weak and he is greatly emaciated.

The young Prince Imperial of Japan will soon be sent to France, to complete his education.

President Arthur has a brother in the army, who has recently been assigned to duty in General Hancock's department.

Mr. Longfellow, in a letter to a friend, denies that he is suffering with a cancer in his cheek, as was extensively reported.

Bayard Taylor's venerable parents, Joseph and Rebecca Taylor, live quietly and comfortably at Kennett Square. They have been married sixty-seven years. A short time since Joseph passed his 85th birthday, and more recently Rebecca reached her 82d anniversary.

The Empress of Russia is said to be an admirable manager, both of her time and of everything that pertains to the household duties. Her great intelligence and sweetness of manner have given her an extraordinary influence over her husband and all other persons who are brought in contact with her.

Items of Interest.

General Stoneman has raised $16,000 worth of grapes on his vineyard at Los Angelos, Cal., this year.

President Arthur's message to Congress was written on paper with a broad black margin and tied with black tape.

Fifty-eight thousand and ninety-seven pupils are enrolled in the public schools of Chicago, the average daily attendance being 48-589. The city employs 972 teachers.

Mayor Prince of Boston has requested the City Council to organize a movement for the celebration of the centennial anniversary of the birth of Daniel Webster on the 18th of January next.

Krupp, the famous gunmaker, had in his employ a few weeks ago 13,000 men; but new orders have compelled him to hire an additional force of 8,000, which places him at the head of a fair-sized city, with a population of over 30,000.

In China, they do not vaccinate the arm or leg, but the nose. Parents are offered a premium of 100 copper cash which amounts to ten cents, for every child vaccinated. This sum to a poor Chinaman, in his own country, is not to be despised.

It is said that the Natural Bridge property in Virginia has been purchased by a stock company, of which Governor Cornell, of New York, is president. A new railroad is to be built and other efforts made to bring it up as a popular Summer resort.

It is reported upon good authority that upwards of 600 American horses are now doing service in the French cavalry, and have given so good satisfaction that the French army officers induced their Secretary of War to send two of their most trusty officers to this country last season to inspect our horses. They want a compact animal about 15¼ hands high.

The famous old frigate Constitution was formally put out of commission at the Brooklyn Navy Yard last week, when her ensign was hauled down in the presence of all the officers of the yard. She now takes her place in what is called "Rotten Row" with the Susquehanna and Ticonderoga, and unless broken up and sold for relics will be allowed to fall gradually to pieces.

Two meetings of Jewish citizens have been held at Chicago, and a plan has been organized for procuring employment for those of their race who have recently arrived from Russia. A considerable sum of money was subscribed, and Mayor Harrison made a speech, urging that employment for their friends be searched for in the country districts rather than in the overcrowded cities.

A suit has been begun in the United States Court at Paducah, Ky., to test the constitutionality of State Legislation drawing a color line. By Kentucky laws a poll-tax is imposed exclusively upon negroes, and it is claimed that this is in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment. There is also a State school fund appropriated exclusively to the education of white children, and the validity of this will be determined.

The police of New York city, according to their annual report, made during the last year 28,838 arrests. Lost children to the number of 1,719 were found and restored to their parents by members of the force during the same period. Property amounting in value to $118,004.65 was recovered, and $117,272.36 worth of it was returned to the owners. The remainder is in the hands of the Property Clerk awaiting claimants.

We notice a statement in the papers to the effect that a member of Congress recently had a visit from a lad who desired to be appointed a page or a clerk or something. The Congressman told him that the case was hopeless, as there were a thousand applicants for each office. The upshot was that, as the lad had exhausted all his money, the Congressman had to pay for his ticket home. The Congressman further stated that he had, since last spring, spent more than two months' salary in just this way, paying the homeward fare of constituents who had come on to get offices, and were unable to get home. It is an illustration of the slavery which our present Civil Service imposes on members of Congress.

Books and Periodicals.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE.—The numbers of the *Living Age* for the weeks ending Dec. 17th and 24th, respectively, contain the following valuable and interesting articles: The Last Great Dream of the Crusade, Nineteenth Century; The Decadence of Frenchwomen, Blackwood; An Athenian Archbishop of the Dark Ages, Fraser: Spanish Proverbs, St. James's Gazette; Monos Island, Trinidad, Nature; Fifty Years Ago, St. James's Gazette; Country Life in Italy, Temple Bar; German Student Life, Fraser: Henry Martyn, Church Quarterly; The Growth and Distribution of our National Wealth, Economist; The "Eccentricities" of the Rich, Spectator; Dr. Ward on the Divine Pre-Movement, Spectator; The Story of a Railway Journey, Temple Bar; What Came of It, Argosy; The Rev. Jeremiah's Thorn, Fraser; and the usual choice poetry.

The next volume begins in January.

For fifty-two numbers of sixty-four large pages each, (or more than 3,300 pages a year), the subscription price ($8) is low; while for $10.50 the publishers offer to send any one of the American $4 monthlies or weeklies with the *Living Age* for a year, both postpaid. Littell & Co., Boston, are the publishers.

WIDE AWAKE for January, 1882. The January number, which is the holiday issue of the Wide Awake, is as beautiful as Santa Claus himself could have made it. Among the lovely pictures are three superb drawings by Lungren, each unexcelled in its line: The frontispiece, "Winter Birds," on heavy plate paper, deserves framing for every house in the land; "The Fairy Crew" is pronounced by all who have seen it, the most beautiful fairy picture ever drawn; and "The Blind Handel" in the Reading Course is like a masterly painting. But to begin at the beginning: The magazine opens with a story by Edward Everett Hale, "Asaph Sheafe's Christmas," and is followed by a most readable article by Amanda B. Harris upon "Christmas Cards," which, by the way, is illustrated by Miss L. B. Humphrey, who took the Second and Third Artist's Prizes in Prang's last Card Competition. Then comes the long-talked-of serial by A Boy: "Their Club and Ours." It has excellent illustrations by Bodfish, as has also the other serial "From the Hudson to the Neva," by David Ker. Now we come to the grand pictorial feature of this number: seven Poems of Christmas-tide, by the young Vermont poet, Mary E. Wilkins. Very beautiful poems they are, and very beautiful are the illustrations, each appealing directly to the heart and fancy of young readers. The jolly feature of the number is "Ginevra Alveretta's Merry Christmas, written by Margaret Eytinge, and illustrated by Sol Eytinge jr., in his happiest vein. Sophie May, too, tells a funny story about "Kittyleen," which is also illustrated by Eytinge. Two other capital stories are "A Father Lost," by Mrs. Catherwood, and "Queer Company Home," by Mrs. Susan Power, who also writes about some charming things "For a Girl's Room," in the Chautauqua Reading Course in this number. Mr. Arthur Gilman begins his "Short Stories from the Dictionary," and Edward Everett Hale goes on with his popular "To-Day" talks, while Mr. George L. Osgood opens the new music series with a charming composition for a song by Christina Rossetti. Whoever reads this number will subscribe for the year. Only $2.50 a year. Ella Farman, Editor: D. Lothrop & Co., Publishers, Boston.

ST. NICHOLAS FOR JANUARY, 1882, has eighty pages and more than sixty illustrations. Its frontispiece is a beautiful picture by Robert Blum, illustrating a fairy story of the Rhineland. There is the conclusion of "The Poor Count's Christmas," Mr. Frank R. Stockton's story, begun in the December number, and a curious tale of modern Greek Folk-lore, told by Hon. Jeremiah Curtin, and illustrated with spirited pictures by Alfred Brennan. Other short stories are: "The Cow that Considered," by Sophie Swett, with illustrations by W. T. Smedley; "The Porter's Iron Collar," an anecdote of a gigantic nobleman of Russia, by David Ker, with a fine picture by Néhlig; and a comical story, "Bones and Bow-wows," written and illustrated by Frank Bellew.

Celia Thaxter contributes a fine poem on the great Sir William Napier's chivalrous conduct toward a peasant child, and Margaret Vandegrift some capital verses on an adventure of "The Clown's Baby" in a mining town of the far West. These poems have very striking pictures drawn by Jessie McDermott and R. B. Birch.

In an article entitled "How to make Puppets and Puppet-shows," Mr. Daniel C. Beard explains to the boys and girls how they may entertain the family circle, or parties of their companions, with a delightful in-door amusement; and besides furnishing a brisk, dramatized version of "Puss in Boots" for representation, he supplies examples of all the puppets, diagrams of the way to produce funny stage-effects, and hints and suggestions how to present the shadow-play.

This month's installments of the two serial stories—"Donald and Dorothy," by Mary Mapes Dodge (the editor of *St. Nicholas*), and "The Hoosier School-boy," by Edward Eggleston, author of "The Hoosier School-master"—contain novel scenes, characters and incidents, and are well illustrated. And "A Drummer-boy's Recollections" describes in the most graphic manner, and with the help of three fine illustrations, the terrible experiences of a soldier in the Federal Army in the woods at Chancellorsville, and through the first day of the fighting at Gettysburg.

Humorous verses and funny single pictures are given here and there in the number; there is a story of four pages with five pictures for the Very Little Folk; "Jack-in-the-Pulpit" discourses with his usual good spirits about matters and things; the "Letter-box" contains some special words from the Editor to the readers, besides the tenth report of the doings of the Agassiz Association; and the "Riddle-box" closes the number with an assortment of puzzles including a curious Maze.

THE NINETEENTH CENTURY—December, '81. Contents: The Irish Jacobins, The Scotch Land Question, Recent Phases of Judæophobia, Boileau and Pope, Opium and Common Sense, Dean Stanley as a Spiritual Teacher and Theologian, Gossip of an Old Bookworm, The Position of the Whigs, Industrial Schools and the Home Office, Vivisection: Its Pains and Uses. New York: George Munro, publisher, 17 to 27 Vandewater street.

BEAUTIES OF SACRED SONG; a collection of the very best compositions by the very best masters. Boston: Copyright, 1881, by Oliver Ditson & Co., C. H. Ditson & Co., New York, Lyon & Healy, Chicago, J. E. Ditson & Co., Phila., pp. 288.

THE IDEAL, by L. O. Emerson. Boston: Oliver Ditson & Co. Phila.: J. E. Ditson & Co.

CHRIST, THE LORD, A Sacred Cantata, by W. Williams. Boston: Oliver Ditson & Co., Phila: J. E. Ditson & Co.

Married.

At the residence of the bride's parents, December 20th, 1881, by Rev. R. C. Bowling, B. M. Kribb, of Kossuth, Pa., to Miss F. C. Weeter, of Salem, Clarion county, Pa.

At the Reformed parsonage, Walkersville, Md., by Rev. S. M. Hench, on Nov. 22d, 1881, William H. Albaugh to Miss Martha A. S. Staley, both of Frederick county, Md.

Dec. 28th, 1881, at the same place, by the same, Eugene Augustus Clemmer to Miss Anna E. Miller, both of Frederick county, Md.

Obituaries.

"Fallen asleep in Jesus." Ella Womelsdorf, daughter of Henry P. and Maria Stichter, in the 23d year of her age.

She was a faithful member of Trinity Reformed church of Pottsville, and was confirmed six years ago with a class of thirty catechumens. She led an exemplary life and was a beloved teacher in the Sunday-school. On all festive occasions her taste and skill were brought into service in the arrangement of flowers and other decorations. Her church was her spiritual home. It was under its teachings that her life was made so beautiful, and that it bore so many admirable and noble traits of character. Her lady-like deportment and her cultured refinement made her a favorite with all. She was for nearly a year afflicted with an insidious disease which terminated her life on December the 19th, when our Heavenly Father called her to His home of heavenly rest. Bereaved mourners, comfort yourselves, your jewel has found its setting in the Saviour's crown. PASTOR.

DIED.—On the 12th of Dec., 1881, in the vicinity of West Millville, Clarion county, Pa., Samuel Shick, very suddenly of heart disease, aged 67 years, 7 months and 29 days.

Father Shick moved with his parents from Northampton county, Pa., to this vicinity some sixty years ago. He was an excellent citizen, and a very worthy and consistent member of the Trinity Reformed church. He leaves a large number of relatives and friends to mourn his loss, but his loss is their gain. His funeral took place on the 14th, and was very largely attended. The occasion was improved by the writer from Rev. 14: 13—"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them."

DIED.—In Johnstown, Pa., Nov. 16, 1881, Frank Edward Willower, aged 2 years, 7 months, and 25 days.

The deceased was a sweet little boy. His winning manners endeared him to all who made his acquaintance. He was the only son of Edward H. and Isabella Willower. He cheered the home of his earthly parents but a brief period of time. Oh how beautiful was he in death! To give back to the insatiable grave a corpse so beautiful and lovely, must try the hearts of parents. Little Frankie has left the loving embrace of a dear mother, the caresses of kind sisters. His body lies awaiting the resurrection morn in Sandyvale cemetery. W. H. B.

Acknowledgments.

BETHANY ORPHANS' HOME, WOMELSDORF, PA.

Rec'd from St Matthew's cong, Rev L D Stambach, per C G F, 3.75, from E & S Dieffenbacher per C G F, 10.00, Moses Hess. per C G F, 2.80.

By Mr A Pfrom, Zion's cong, Dr N Gehr, pastor, 46.56. WM. D. GROSS, Treas.

From St Stephen's Ref Ch, Lancaster, Pa, E V Gerhard, D D, 6.71, Ref S S, Laureiton, Pa, Rev A C Whitmer, 2.54, ditto box of clothing and bedding, 32.50, Grindstonehill Charge, Franklin Co, Rev W H Herbert, 11.80, St John's Ref Ch, East Mauch Chunk, Rev J E Freeman, 8.64, Willie and Nevin Freeman, Weissport, Pa, 40, Friends at Loyalton, Dauphin Co, collected by Miss Emma J McClure, 9.00, Rev P Ruhl, Prospect, Marion Co, O, collected in charge, 10.00, M Crocall, 50 yds muslin, Rev C Kuss, Buffalo, N Y, 5.00, Two Lady Teachers, Salem's S S, Buffalo, N Y, Two Girl's caps, 2.00, Mary, George, Ursinus, Catharine, Eva, and Rachel Faus, Bloomsburg Charge, Rev O H Strunck, 4.00, St Peter's Ref cong, Apple Creek charge, O, Rev L M Kershner, 7.00, Missionary Society, Zion's Ref Ch, Lehigh Co, Rev Eli Keller, 25.00, Young People's Society, and Ladies' Mite Society, Trinity Ref Ch, York, Pa, box of bedding and clothing, J O Miller D D, 50.00, 1st Ref Ch Race St, Phila, price of muslin, and box of clothing, books, &c, from S School of same church, Rev D Van Horne, 35.00, J R Hilbush and family, Mahanoy, Pa, 10.00, Daniel Hilbush, ditto, 7.00, Mrs Nancy Hilbush, ditto, 5.00, E R Hilbush and family, ditto, 5.00, "Ladies Aid Society," Trinity Ref Ch, Pottstown, Pa, box of clothing, bedding and provisions, Rev L K Evans, 38.00, A Christmas Gift to the Orphans from Charlie, Bessie and Gracie Fox, Reading, Pa, 3.00, Wm A Coleman, Reading, Pa, 20.00, Friends at Everett, Pa, 3.00, Ref Ch, Bethlehem, Pa, bedding and cakes, 23.00

By Rev F W Kremer D D, Lebanon, Pa, Christmas col, from S School, 65.15, S P Mauger, Ref S S Canal Winchester, O, 3.25, Zion's Ref S S, 1.55, Vernon Mauger's Savings Bank, 1.76, Mrs S P Mauger, 1.00.

By Rev C Borchers, Baltimore, Md, col'd 24.50, Prof Jas A Hautsch, proceeds of concert by St Paul's Ref Ch, Reading, Pa, 182.29, Prof N C Shaffer, Kutztown, Pa, 20.00, Dennis Holtz, Tiffin, O, 5.00, Rev S M Hench, Walkersville, from Glade Ref S S, 7.40, Rev W Feige, from Mrs F Feige, Storm Lake, Iowa, 5.00, Rev J G Neuber, col'd in Bethlehem cong, Philadelphia, 25.60. Rev H H Sandoe, from Union chg, Lancaster, O, 16.33, Rev G H Leonhard, Basil, O, 10.00, Rev. J C Bucher, D D, Lewisburg, Pa, 25.00, Rev D B Albright from Bethany Orphan's Home cong, Christmas com col. 75.00, Rev F H W Kuckerman, from 1st Ger Ref cong, New Knoxville, Ohio, 100.00, from S S, 25.00, Rev J N Sechler, from Boehms cong, Centre Square, Pa, 30.00, Rev C S Gerhard, from Trinity Ref cong and S S, Columbia, Pa, 10.00, Rev G A Scheer, from St Markus S S and cong, Phila, 42.46, Rev H S J Rinker, Lovettsville, Va. from S S and cong. 12.20, Jos H Lefevre, Treas, from Redeemer cong and S S, Littlestown, Pa, Rev D N Ditmar pastor, 15.00, Rev A Houtz, Orangeville, Pa, from the St. James cong, Pa, 9.00.

D B ALBRIGHT, Supt.

FOR BUILDING FUND.

By Rev John Rettig from Ladies' Society 1st Ref Ch, Indianapolis, 11.00, Rev B Wolff, Jr, from a member of Grace Ch, Pittsburg, 5.00, Rev N Z Snyder, from A. Transue, 2.00, J J Lehr, 3.00, Eddie Lehr, 50c, members South Easton cong, Rev E A Gernant, from Zion's Ref Ch, Allentown, Pa. 115.54, Henry S Dotterer, Phila, 25.00, Rev P S Prugh, from his S School, Germantown, O, 9.00, Rev John Roeck, Ebenezer, N Y, 21.25, Rev C Keller, Bridesburg, Pa, 65.00, Rev J C Ochsner, Norwood, Minn, 12.00, Rev C T Martin, from Immanuel cong, Franklin, Wis, 30.50, Rev J A Peters from the Ladies' Mite Society 1st Ref Ch, Lancaster, Pa. 50.00, cong, 73.80, Mr A. Pfrom, from S School of Zion's cong, Phila, Dr. N. Gehr, pastor, 100.00, WM. D. GROSS, Treas. Box 2147, Phila., Pa.

From Mission Ref Ch, Canal Fulton, O, Rev J V Lerch, 14.30, Schwartzwald, cong, Rev A S Leinbach, 31.20, Race St, Ref Ch. Phila, Rev D Van Horne, 6.80, Friends at Everett, Bedford county, Pa, 2.00.

FOR A NEW LIBRARY.

From Race St Ref Ch Phila, collected by Miss Addie Doll, $13.00. D. B. ALBRIGHT, Supt.

The Messenger.

REV. P. S. DAVIS, D. D., EDITOR-IN-CHIEF.

Rev. J. H. SECHLER,
Rev. D. B. LADY,
Rev. A. R. KREMER, } Synodical Editors.

TO CORRESPONDENTS. Communications on practical subjects and items of intelligence relating to the Church, are solicited. Persons who forward communications should not write anything pertaining to the *business of the office* on the back of their communications, but on a separate slip—or, if on the same sheet, in such a way, that it can be separated from the communication, without affecting it.

☞ We do not hold ourselves responsible for the return of unaccepted manuscripts.

For Terms, see First page.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1882.

The beginning of the New Year, will by the blessing of God, prove to be a good time for renewed efforts on behalf of Missions. The people are full of pious intentions, and it would be well to give some proper direction to them. If organizations cannot be made perfect at once, that will come by degrees. Only let pastors see that every one has something to do—some object for which to work, and unity of plan will follow in the course of time.

Yes it "paid"—all the trouble and care required to get ready for Christmas has brought or will bring a full return. There is always a busy time before the festival. Surprises are to be planned and gifts provided. The work of the little girl's hands must be done in due season; the tree must be obtained or the larder supplied and judgment and taste must be exercised in a thousand ways. Time and money must be considered, and the tax upon human thought and energy is often such that many a one grows weary of it and wishes it were over, as far as that feature of the day is concerned The pleasure we wish to afford others requires labor and sacrifice, and every thing is complicated by the difficulty in finding out just what it would be best to do. But these elements if removed would almost destroy the moral quality of giving. It is a poor thing for any one to bring a gift that has cost him nothing; but when the face of a child beams with gladness at receiving a toy, or the gratitude of older persons shows itself in the appreciation of a token of good will, all the worry and toil are forgotten. The regret of those who do not push through difficulties to throw a little flower in some one's path on Christmas day is generally very marked. We once found a poor mother weeping bitterly because she had allowed discouragements to keep her from making some little provision for her children. The pleasure of giving rather than receiving is the one that comes out on the day that Christ was born, and when the great fact celebrated is considered, it explains the philosophy of the matter.

Professor Reily's book on "The Artist and his Mission," has this merit, that it makes "the beautiful" to culminate in "the good." It does not ignore the fact that the untroubled harmonies of heaven were brought down to earth by the Incarnation of God's dear Son, and that in Him alone the disorders of sin are to find their perfect cure. We are glad to find the work endorsed by those whose judgment upon the subject will have great weight. Dr. Higbee, who has lectured upon æsthetics for ten years, after thoroughly examining it, expresses great satisfaction with it, and says, "It must serve as a most excellent book for teachers to read and meditate upon: and were I to return to my former work, I should require my pupils to use it as a text-book."

The country and all civilized nations have become tired and disgusted with the trial of Guiteau. The expressions of the American and European press are unanimous in testifying that the proceedings have become farcical. The culprit, who does not pretend to deny his act, seems to have taken possession of the court, and delayed processes by impudent interferences. This has become a matter of joke. One wag says that if the judiciary does not allow more liberty the prisoner will withdraw from the case entirely out of pure self-respect, and another intimates that if Judge Cox wishes to fine any one for "contempt of court" he has the whole world to pick from, and might as well include our entire humanity when he inflicts the penalty.

Last week Judge Porter in behalf of the prosecution, impatient with the laxity allowed, rose at one point and protested against some of the testimony Mr. Scoville offered on the hypothesis that the murderer was in his own view a partner of our Divine Redeemer. Judge Porter took the position that the whole thought was blasphemous and should be ruled out in the name of all that is high and holy. For this he will receive the thanks of men good and true everywhere. No doubt the presiding justice has wished to give the offender the full benefit of trial by jury, although the crime was so unmitigated as to almost provoke summary punishment; but the longer the thing hangs the more palpable the conviction in the public mind that Guiteau is more knave than fool.

It is related that while preaching from the text "He giveth His beloved sleep," a Toledo minister stopped in the middle of a sermon, gazed upon his drowsy auditors and said, "Brethren, it is hard to realize the wondrous abounding love the Lord appears to have for a large portion of this congregation." We do not know how much truth there is in the above statement, but such turns given to Scripture from the pulpit seldom do good, although eccentric men like Rowland Hill and Sidney Smith often made them. The word of God is too holy to be dragged down from its true meaning.

THAT LETTER LIST.

It has been rendered almost necessary by increased business at 907 Arch Street, to abolish, for the present, at least, the publication of what has long been known to the readers of the MESSENGER as the "Letter List." The former plan of acknowledging important communications was adopted as an expedient before the days of cheap postage, and has been carried along ever since from the force of habit, and because our people expected it. It will be apparent, however, to every intelligent person that a cheaper, more expeditious and satisfactory way, will be to send postal cards. The writer of a letter will then know at once that his communication has come to hand without waiting a whole week and hunting through a list of names to find it out. Letters containing orders, enclosing moneys, etc., will be as carefully filed away for reference as before, but the labor and delay of preparing the list, and the space required, as well as the expense of type setting, will be avoided.

NEW YEAR THOUGHTS.

New Year's day constitutes an epoch in the progress of time. With it one complete revolution comes to an end and another begins. The old year dies. A new year begins to live. We have done with the one. We may regret, or rejoice in, what we did, as the days and weeks and months passed by. From the higher standpoint of the year's close, and in the light of subsequent experience, we can recognise our mistakes, and detect the bearing of many things thoughtlessly performed. Or the event may have proved the wisdom of other deeds doubtfully done. We may have "builded better than we knew." Many valuable lessons are to be learned from the experience of the past. But that past itself can never be recalled. The old year is gone. "What is done is dead." The coming year, however, is before us. As far as we are responsible for its events we still have them in our hands. It is ours to control and shape them aright. Only a fool will commit the same blunder twice. We have learned much from the year that is gone. We should apply what we have learned to the contingencies which arise around us as our life goes on. Every new year should be an improvement on the old.

> "I hold it truth with him who sings
> To one clear heart in divers tones,
> That men may rise on stepping-stones
> Of their dead selves to higher things."

There is a certain petition in one of the prayers prescribed by the Order of Worship for use in the family which we never read without an impression of its beauty. "Bless our kindred and friends: those who are in sin, O Lord, convert; strengthen and confirm those who are in grace." Could any classification of the human family be more just than this, those who are in sin and those who are in grace? And what prayer so appropriate as that, the one might be converted and that the other might be strengthened and confirmed.

Are we still in sin, dear friends? Then the passing away of the old year ought to awaken us to serious thoughts. How many among the number of our acquaintances have closed their eyes to the light of this natural life since last New Year's day. We have no assurance that we will live to see the close of the annual cycle upon which we are now entering. Should we not be diligent in using its golden hours and employing its blessed opportunities to secure the salvation of our souls? Every succeeding year finds us better or worse. We cannot remain the same. There is such a thing as becoming hardened in sin, as well as confirmed in holiness through the progress of time. And even were it absolutely certain that we should live for ten years to come, with every succeeding year the probabilities of our conversion would grow less.

Are we in grace? We should strive to be strengthened and confirmed. Physical growth is the result of eating and exercise. So with spiritual advancement. And opportunities are not wanting. New grace comes with every new day, as the manna lay around the tent doors of the children of Israel in the wilderness every morning. Our Christian virtue is put to the test almost hourly. We are called upon to exercise it constantly. If we avail ourselves of the offered grace and of the opportunities to resist sin and serve the Master, strength and confirmation will come. We are still far from the perfection required to fit us for the society of the Heavenly Kingdom. Much remains to be done in the process of getting rid of the old and putting on the new. The passing year reminds us that the time is short. Let us work while it is called to-day. The night cometh in which no man can work. L.

THE SWORD.

The first echo to the Saviour's birth was a note of joy. The second was a wail of lamentation. Herod sought the young Child to destroy Him. He feared the rivalry of the New born King. To insure the permanence of his royal authority he was willing to commit a great crime. When his first plan to bring about the death of the infant Messiah failed, he resorted to another, so horrible that only a monster of moral iniquity could have conceived, and only a devil incarnate could have executed it. Made acquainted beforehand with the time at which the wonderful star appeared, he sent forth his ruffian soldiery and slew all the children of Bethlehem and the surrounding country, from two years old and under.

And it is not to be supposed that this was an accidental circumstance attending the beginning of the work of salvation. Christ said, later on in His life, "I came not to send peace, but a sword." Christ's life was one of personal suffering. The shadow of the cross fell upon Him in the manger and was never lifted till He left the sepulchre. And the friends of Christ were to an extent involved in the sufferings to which He was Himself subjected. Simeon said to the Virgin Mother, "And a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also." His coming resulted in the slaughter of the Innocents. They were the first of that great army of martyrs who have undergone a violent death for the new kingdom of which He was the founder.

In our day popularity and present success are the objects aimed at by the large majority of men. This is the world-spirit, and it has to a degree gained possession of the Church and profaned the very sanctuary of the Highest. We want to shout, Victory, before we have fought the battle. We want to wear the Crown before we have overcome in the conflict. We want to sing the "Hosanna" before the "De Profundis," and all the time. We forget that those who appeared before God in St. John's vision of Heaven with palms in their hands and crowns of victory upon their heads, clothed in linen, white and clean, were they who had come up through great tribulation. Popularity and success in the eyes of men, even men who are members of the Church very often, are not always the things most to be desired in a Church. At present we are in the militant state, in the very midst of an awful struggle with sin. And defeat, the destruction of the brightest earthly hopes, failure, from a worldly point of view, strong crying and tears, and lamentations, like those which filled the air around Bethlehem when Herod slew the Innocents, are better indications than anything else that we are in the path of Christian duty and in the line of spiritual promotion.

The same application may be made to individuals. We are in great danger of forgetting that neither we nor the kingdom to which we belong are of the world. When the world begins to hate us we become alarmed. When the Herods of our time send out and slay our innocent actions with the sword of slander and misrepresentation, or show their opposition in any other way, we lose confidence. The Word of God says, "Woe unto you when all men speak well of you." We are wretched when they do not speak well of us. This is a mistake. The friendship of the world is to be taken as evidence of the disapprobation of God, and that which calls out the enmity of the world is often the thing which will secure the favor of God. The Christian's glory is, not that men cheer him on, when he sets out on his pilgrimage, but that they mock and scorn and scoff at him. "We glory in tribulation also." Only in the other world will we find ourselves in harmony with our surroundings. L.

Mr. Binkley reports forty-one new subscribers for the MESSENGER from the Flourtown charge of which Rev. J. D. Detrich is pastor.

Communications.

NEW CHAPEL AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Since the corner-stone laying, the work of building the New Chapel has been rapidly going forward. The weather for the most part has been favorable, and notwithstanding the lateness of the season, the builders have met with but little interruption. Already the walls have been completed, the roof finished, the interior of the structure plastered, the floor laid, and now the painters are busily engaged in giving tint and hue to the woodwork. Thus far, we are happy to say, the work has been entirely satisfactory and successful. We had hoped to dedicate our new house of worship about New Year, but find that all things will not be in readiness.

The prospects at present are that the new chapel will be ready for occupancy before February.

"Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." Many kind friends of the Mission have given us encouragement with liberal contributions.

The building completed and furnished will cost at least $5,000 We trust that all who have promised to assist in the erection of the chapel will not forget their promises.

Brethren, we greatly need all the money you have kindly pledged us, and much more in addition.

An individual member of the Board has procured the loan of a limited amount to help us in our emergency. Besides this amount, we will need at least $1,000, together with the outstanding subscriptions.

All this must be raised in a very short time. We hope and trust that all promises and pledges will be redeemed as early as possible, enabling us to square accounts with the contractors; and also that other good friends throughout the Church may come to our aid.

The greater part of moneys received from synodical assessments in our behalf have gone to pay for the lot, which cost over $3,000. Of this amount, the last instalment of $700 remains unpaid, and will be needed by the first of March. When this last payment has been made, the lot costing a little over $3,000 will be the property of the Reformed Church, free of debt.

The Mission is increasing in membership. Twenty adults have been added during the past eighteen months. This is encouraging, considering the fact that the members had no church, no place of worship they could call *home*.

The prospects brighten with a new chapel, and with God's grace to strengthen us in the future as it has in the past, we go forward in the upbuilding of Christ's kingdom in the National Capital. PASTOR.

MERCERSBURG COLLEGE.

As is known to most readers of THE MESSENGER, Mercersburg College was re-opened last September, as a male and female institution of learning, under the superintendence of Rev. Dr. Aughinbaugh, aided by efficient assistants. The College closed its first term or session on Thursday, December 22d, 1881. The session passed pleasantly both to teachers and pupils, and it is certain, that the latter have made considerable progress. This was very apparent in the entertainment or exhibition, held on Thursday evening, at the close of the session. Although the evening was very inclement, nevertheless the attendance on the part of the pastors and friends of the institution, was very good. The exercises consisted of music, recitations, declamations, and dialogues, and were well performed. It is not deemed necessary to name the different performers in the programme of the evening. Suffice it to say that they acquitted themselves well, and with credit to the College; and that the entertainment rendered general satisfaction to all present.

The next session of the College opens on Tuesday, January 3d, A. D 1882, with encouraging prospects of increased patronage. Let the friends of the institution furnish students, in adequate numbers, and Mercersburg College will prove a power for good to the Reformed Church and the land. Its location, in a merely outward view, is certainly advantageous. The whole State of Pennsylvania probably could not furnish one, in itself considered, more eligible. The scenery formed by the mountains, only a few miles distant, and which bend around like a vast crescent or amphitheatre, contrasting, as it does, with the rich open country below, is simply splendid. Scenery is always educational. And no parent, who is possessed of proper intelligence and right feeling, can be indifferent to its influence, in selecting a school for his or her child.

The town of Mercersburg is retired, being free from the excitement and temptations of many other seats of learning, yet sufficiently easy of access, having two trains of cars daily, by which persons can either come or go. Indeed few seminaries of learning are so well situated, in these respects, as the College at Mercersburg.

There is not, at the same time, a more healthy location in any part of the State. In point of air, water, and general climate, it is all, in this view, that the most anxious parents could desire. MONTGOMERY.

CHRISTMAS REJOICINGS.

York, Pa.

Keeping in mind the large demand for space in reports of the Christmas festivities, we shall be as brief as possible in our notice of the service in Dr. J O. Miller's church at York. The chief service was in the evening of Christmas day. In the morning the usual service for the congregation was held, the writer preaching the sermon. The church-edifice was more profusely decorated than usual, and, what is more difficult in such a case, in more excellent taste and forcible expression than on any previous occasion, so far as our knowledge goes. The Bethlehem scene, and the cave of our Saviour's birth, were represented in the infant-school room. Several new features were added to this, while in the main they were the same as on former occasions. The decoration in the main audience-room of the church was exceptionally beautiful. But the chief interest centres around the Sunday-school service in the evening. Dr. Miller's Sunday school numbers over *five hundred* scholars. These were formed in procession in the large lecture and Sunday-school rooms in the rear of the church, but on the same floor; and at the proper time they entered in an orderly manner, and took their seats, while the organ was being played. The scene was a most impressive one. When all were seated, the church was entirely filled, over a hundred extra seats having been provided, the vestibule even was crowded, and many, we know, could not enter at all.

The service consisted chiefly of songs of praise, the liturgical offices of prayer, the creed, and antiphonal Scripture reading being introduced at suitable intervals. A short address was delivered by the writer at the place appointed near the close, and a collection was lifted for the Orphans' Home. There was nothing dramatic or sensational in the service. It went forward in the spirit of true devotion, and the impression made upon the large audience was most salutary, manifest from the perfect order and attention to the close

There are excellent forms of Christmas service in our different churches. They are no doubt improving year by year. In reaching the true ideal form, the one prepared and used by Dr. Miller, we feel assured, would rank among the best, and for that reason we commend it to pastors who may be still seeking to advance on the forms they have been using. The Sunday-school is a great power in this congregation. The prophecy, "a little child shall lead them," is beautifully exemplified in the deep and universal interest manifested by the congregation in this children's service. Dr. Miller seems to renew his youth as he lives in the affection of the children in his congregation. The special services in his church lose none of their attractiveness and favor in the community as the years go by. His Christmas and Easter services are always attended by many outside of his congregation, and his annual sermon to the firemen fills his church to its utmost capacity. One thought in closing this very brief notice.

In the beautiful edifice, in the impressive services, in the excellent training of the Sunday-school, in short in the general success of his ministerial work, running through a quarter of a century, the moulding power of the true idea of worship is plainly visible. With all its difficulties and troubles, the liturgical movement, now at length generally accepted and approved, at least in its main features, has been one of the greatest blessings to our Church. T. G. A.

Lancaster, Pa.

From the *Lancaster Examiner* we condense an account of the way in which Christmas was celebrated in our church in that place:

The First Reformed Church, as it always is, was elaborately and beautifully decorated. Early services were held at six o'clock on Sunday morning, when Prof. Kieffer, of Franklin and Marshall College, read the Scripture lessons. A glorious musical service was rendered by a choir of about forty voices, led by Hiram Stamm, supported by twenty-four musical instruments under the direction of Professors Keffer and Taylor. The church was crowded to its utmost capacity. At ten o'clock the regular service was held, when the pastor, Rev. J. A. Peters, preached an able sermon. At 6 30 in the evening, the Sunday-school entertainment was held, the children assembling in the basement and marching into the church. The exercises consisted of singing, responsive readings, addresses by Prof. J. H. Dubbs, and concluded with the presentation of gifts to the Infant School.

The decorations at St. Paul's consisted of

the tasteful trimming of the side and walls, pulpit and chancel rail, with festoons of ever greens. On Sunday, Dr. Shumaker, the pastor, preached in the morning from John viii. 56, and in the evening from Titus ii. 13–15. Monday evening, the thirty-first anniversary of the Sunday-school was held in the church, which was crowded. The programme was well rendered in all its parts. From the Superintendent's report we gather the following items of interest: whole number on roll, including officers and teachers, 222; whole number in Mission School, 39; attendance during year, officers, 358; teachers, 1090; scholars, 6,315; visitors, 339; total amount of contributions, $295.99.

The Sunday school of St. John's Reformed German Church, corner of Orange and Mulberry streets, celebrated its Christmas festival Sunday evening. The audience-room was profusely and tastefully decorated with greens by some of the young people of the congregation, who deserve no little credit for the manner in which they executed their work. Two Christmas trees, neatly trimmed, had been put up, one on each side of the pulpit. An attentive and interested audience of children and grown people filled the spacious church. The exercises were opened with an anthem by the choir and with prayer by the pastor, Rev. A. E. Dahlman. The audience was then entertained with declamations and dialogues by the children, all having special reference to the birth of Christ, interspersed with hymns by the school, which were rendered with a will. A short address was delivered by the pastor, in which he referred to the great gift of God to the world in the sending of His Son in the flesh, and urged upon the audience the duty of gratitude to God for all He has given to us in Christ, and called upon them to give an expression to their gratitude by their contributions in behalf of the Orphans' Home of the Reformed Church at Womelsdorf lately burned down. After the collection, which amounted to some $17, and singing by the choir and the school, the presents were distributed among the children, consisting of books for the older, and confectionery for the younger scholars.

A Christmas festival for the church and Sunday-school was held in St. Luke's Reformed chapel on Sunday morning at half past ten o'clock. A full house greeted the joyous occasion, and the exercises were of a highly interesting nature. Appropriate Scripture selections were read, and Christmas carols sung. Rev. Prof. J. S. Stahr delivered an address to the Sunday-school in his usual happy manner, after which beautiful cards and gifts were distributed to the scholars. Along with the many beautiful carols sung, was the new one: "To-day in Bethlehem, Hear I," composed by Miss Alice Nevin, which received such favorable criticism from prominent musicians, and was sung for the first time on this occasion. In the evening at 7.30 o'clock an able Christmas sermon was preached by the pastor, Rev. W. F. Lichliter, and the Lord's Supper administered. The chapel was tastefully decorated with laurel festoonings from the exposed rafters to the central beam as well as the walls.

Newport, Pa.

The Christmas festival was greatly enjoyed by the Sunday and congregation of Christ's Reformed church, at Newport, Pa., on Christmas eve. The attendance was large. The central feature of the festive occasion was a large and handsome Christmas tree, beautifully decorated and heavily ladened with *gifts* for children, teachers and others. The pastor and family were kindly remembered in a thoughtful and elegant way. The offering for Bethany Orphan Home was $18 75.

Shanksville, Va.

On Christmas eve, the Sunday-school in Zion charge at Shanksville had their festival. The well laden tree and neat decorations gave the church a truly festal appearance. The Sunday-school and congregation entered fully into the spirit of the sacred season in giving gifts to each other and to the pastor and family, but not so fully in giving offerings for the orphans, these only amounting to $2.00.

At Glade church a Christmas service was held on Christmas day. There were no gifts for the Sunday-school, and no decorations; but the gifts for the orphans amounted to $3.85. This is a union Sunday-school, and quite vigorously carried on during the whole year in a country congregation. A kind lady handed me two pairs of woolen hose for the orphans. The Lord will reward her.

At St. Luke's church a Christmas service was also held at 2 P.M., using printed Service No. 2 The offerings for the orphans amounted to $2.15. No tree and no decorations.

At Mt. Zion or Hay Church a service was held on Second Christmas, or Monday at 10 A.M. Here a treat was at hand for the Sunday-school. The small envelope prepared by the Board was used for the offerings for the orphans. These offerings amounted to $24 29 for the Sunday-school and congregation. All seemed glad on the occasion and at the good result.

At 2 30 P. M., a service was held at the St. Paul's Church, where on account of copious rain and depth of mud, the attendance was small; but the offerings amounted to $2.85. The sum total of the offerings in the charge including that of the pastor and wife, was $37.20.

The pastor rejoices in the good results, and feels amply repaid for his efforts and labors in holding these services. The envelope plan of making these offerings is undoubtedly the best, and is in accord with the true spirit of benevolence, while it trains the children to give. H. F. K., *pastor.*

New Bloomfield, Pa.

The service for the Sunday School of Trinity Reformed church, at New Bloomfield, was interrupted by a funeral service, the Superintendent, Elder F. M. McKeehan, being one of the mourners.

Carlisle, Pa.

Christmas services in the Reformed church, Carlisle, were of a highly interesting character. The church at six o'clock in the morning was literally *packed*, the people scarcely finding standing room. At the Sunday School service in the evening scores were obliged to leave for want of room.

The music was very fine, and the services throughout deeply solemn and impressive. The beautiful church, with its delicate and tasteful decorations, presented an attractive and inspiring scene. The early service was composed mainly of professing Christians from the several churches in the town, a feature that indicates a growing interest in the commemoration of the great *world fact* in God's redemptive work.

Pottsville, Pa.

The Christmas was a happy season to this congregation. An early service was held as has been the custom since its organization, and a large number were present. The holy communion was observed in connection with the morning service, and many were the guests that partook of this banquet of undying love.

The Sunday School held its Christmas festival on second Christmas. The attendance was large, notwithstanding the unfavorable weather. The school presented every scholar with a Christmas gift, and the teachers with a copy of the *Guardian*, in which they receive the full instructions to teach their classes the Sunday School lesson during the year.

The collections taken during these Christmas services by the congregation and school amounted to $59, which has been given for the benefit of Bethany Orphans' Home. Similar services were held in Grace Reformed church, Cressona, and the offering of the Sunday School for Bethany Orphans' Home amounted to $28.25.

Plum Creek, Pa.

The St. Thomas Sunday School of Plum Creek, charge, Armstrong Co,, Pa., had a joyous service on Christmas eve. The church was tastefully decorated, and before the pulpit were placed two handsome Christmas trees. The school, in its festivities, was not forgetful of the orphans, for a collection of $11 was taken up, after which many gifts were given to the scholars, teachers, &c., among whom was the pastor's wife, who was made the happy recipient of a purse of ten dollars, with other valuable presents. Rev. T. R. Dietz was present and added to the interest of the occasion by delivering a very appropriate address.

Meyersdale, Pa.

The Christmas festival was duly observed at Meyersdale. The church was decorated, the children treated, and the organist, pastor and his family remembered in handsome gifts. The beautiful service of song and scripture was made to have a happy ending when, at its close, the young ladies of the congregation presented the church with four reflecting lamps suspended in each corner of the church; and the members of the young men's prayer-meeting followed them with the gift of a black walnut top reading desk, and a black walnut, marble-topped baptismal font. All were very beautiful and needed. J.

New Ringgold, Pa.

A correspondent says: An interesting and instructive Christmas festival was held, as its usual anniversary, on the 26th of December, by Friedens Sunday School, near New Ringgold, Schuylkill county, Pa. In spite of the inclemency of the weather and the bad roads, quite a large audience had assembled at about 7 P. M. The fact that so many, and some from a distance, had come to this festival in the face of such difficulties, shows that the people must have had confidence in the ability and willingness of the Friedens Sunday School to give them an entertainment worth the trouble of coming there.

Beside the opening prayer by the Reformed pastor of the congregation and appropriate music at intervals, we may make mention, as a part of the programme, of a conversation between the scholars and teachers, concerning Bible characters, which, after commenting upon the excellency of the men and women of the Bible, they concluded by bringing forth the great, high and holy character—Jesus.

A red shield, mounted on a support, which was decorated with spruce, was then placed upon the stage. Four boys, appearing one after another, quoted passages from sacred Scripture in which the Lord calls Himself a "Shield." Then came one after another little boys and girls, each bringing the initial letter of an attribute of the Lord, who is our Shield, and quoting the paragraph in which the said attribute was mentioned. These letters, pinned on the shield in the order they were brought forward, spelled "Jesus Our Shield," and being white, made a fine appearance on the red shield. These parts of the programme are but examples of many others of the same kind. All aimed at impressing Scripture facts and truths upon the mind. Considerable taste and skill were displayed in making up the programme, and time and labor were not spared in acquiring skill to execute it, for the ease with which all performed their parts plainly indicated this. While we were well pleased with the entire festival, and with every part of it, we nevertheless think that one deserves special praise, and that was a solo: "Will you meet me at the Fountain," sung by a small boy in a very pathetic manner. "Though we may forget the singer, we shall ne'er forget the song."

Arendtsville, Pa.

The Arendtsville Reformed Sunday-school held a Christmas festival on last Saturday evening. The church was appropriately decorated about the pulpit, and two trees placed on either side of the altar-place laden with gifts for the children. The decorations were simple and tasteful. The entablature back of the pulpit and the front of the pulpit were festooned with evergreens. A beautiful gothic arch, surmounted with a Greek cross, and decorated with suitable flowers, spanned the pulpit. In the apex of the arch hung an illuminated star. Over the entablature and on either side of the pulpit was arranged the angelic hymn, also in illuminated characters, while within the entablature appeared the name of Jesus in evergreen. The trees were of medium size, beautifully adorned and richly laden. The arch, the cross, and the trees were lighted with candles, making a charming picture, which by its simplicity, beauty and richness was well calculated to impress one with the fact which it was designed to represent, namely, the gift of God to man in the person of His beloved Son; the gift which alone ennobles and saves. Had Christ not come in the flesh, the world could never have had a Christmas-tide with its inspiration of faith, hope and love. How significantly in these last days are the words of the prophet still being realized: "The glory of Lebanon shall come unto Thee; the fir tree, the pine tree, and the box together, to beautify my sanctuary; and I will make the place of my feet glorious."

The beautiful Christmas service, No. 2, of the Reformed Church Publication Board, was used with slight modification so as to adapt it to the requirements of the school. It consists principally of selections from the Holy Scriptures, interspersed with suitable hymns and carols. A short and appropriate address was made by the pastor, Rev. A. J. Heller, and a collection lifted, amounting to $26.71, which was appropriated to Bethany Orphan Home. The poor of the congregation were also remembered. The trees were then lighted, and the gifts distributed amongst the children, who were all present except a few that were absent on account of illness and whose presents were reserved. All were, of course, delighted, and returned to their homes in a happy frame of mind.

After the distribution of gifts, the pastor presented, in behalf of the congregation, a handsome gold pen and pencil to Capt. J. H. Plank, Sheriff-elect, in token of their appreciation of his long services as trustee and organist, and as a mark of their confidence and esteem. Mr. R. E. Lyttle responded for him in fitting terms. Others also were made recipients of various special gifts. The audience was very large; nevertheless the best of order prevailed throughout the entire service. H.

Sunbury, Pa.

At five, half-past five, and six o'clock, Christmas morning, the bell of the Reformed Church at Sunbury rang out a *Merry Christmas.* A congregation of happy worshippers soon filled the church, which was handsomely decorated with evergreens and flowering plants. The music—the main feature of the service—was appropriate and well rendered by the choir, of which F. K. Hill, Esq., the organist of the Church, is the efficient leader. The Gospel and Epistle, the Festival prayer, the Advent and Christmas canticles, the *Magnificat, Benedictus,* and the *Nunc Dimittis* at the close, imparted to all new joy in the assurance that Jesus, the Saviour of men, has come.

At half past two the children's services were held. This was the most delightful Christmas Sunday-school service the pastor has ever conducted. The singing by the children was excellent, and the Christmas Address by a little girl of the school was appropriate, well delivered, and made a deep impression on all present. Each scholar received a gift; and there is no doubt that the little ones, as well as parents and friends, went away with that joy in their hearts which Christmas alone can impart.

Bethany Orphan Home was remembered at both the morning and afternoon services. Forty dollars and fifty-four cents were laid upon the altar for this purpose.

T. J. BARKLEY.

Christmas at Quarryville.

Interesting Christmas services were held in St. Paul's Reformed Church, Quarryville, Lancaster county, Pa., on Sunday evening, December 25th. The church was filled to overflowing, so that a part of the audience had to stand. The church was tastefully decorated for the occasion, and a large tree stood to the right of the pulpit. The exercises consisted of music, responsive readings, prayer, and an address by the pastor, Rev. D. B. Shuey. One hundred and twenty-two children were present, each one of whom received a present. The collection was devoted to the use of the Bethany Orphans' Home. A beautiful ebony gold-mounted baton was presented to Mr. Galen J. P. Raub, the efficient leader of the choir, and the "MESSENGER" for a year to Miss Eliza A. Kendig, a faithful teacher of the Sunday-school.

On Christmas morning the pastor preached a sermon, suitable to the occasion, in Zion's Reformed Church, at New Providence, and the collection was also for the Orphans' Home. The week before Christmas, the pastor was surprised by a donation from members of the charge. This added to the Christmas joys of the pastor's family. The necessaries of life brought on this occasion amounted to about forty dollars. The pastor feels truly grateful to his people for their kindness.

General News.

HOME.

The heavy rains of the past week have occasioned floods in the rivers north, south and west. Some idea may be gained by a despatch from Albany, New York, dated Dec. 28th, which says: Merchants on the docks here are going to and from their stores in boats to-day. The river has risen over ten feet, and is still rising at the rate of about an inch an hour. The night boats from New York, due at daybreak, have not arrived at noon. It has rained in this section since Monday morning. Another despatch from Troy, says: The Hudson is more than eight feet above low water mark and steadily rising. Docks are flooded, but no damage of importance has yet been caused. The Hoosac river is high, and at one point is over the Troy and Boston Railroad track.

Washington, Dec 30.—The total amount of United States bonds redeemed up to date under the 105th call is $17,589,600; leaving $2,410,400 still standing, on which interest ceased December 24. The redemption of bonds under the 106th call, so far as shown by the Treasury books to-day, aggregate $6,891,400. To this amount are to be added the bonds received in New York since the 21st instant and various small amounts received in Washington, D. C., which are not yet fully entered—less than half a million in all, leaving about $12,600,000 yet outstanding under this call, on which the government offers to pay the interest without rebate up to January 29, when the call matures and interest ceases.

Lancaster, Dec. 30 —A freight wreck causing loss of life and great loss of property, occurred on the Pennsylvania Railroad in a deep cut at North Bend, about one-half mile from Christiana, this county, at 11 30 last night. A long train drawn by freight engine No. 213, west, was running slow and was run into at the rear by engine No. 253, west. Four empty cars and a caboose were demolished and engine No. 253 thrown off the track and badly broken. Both tracks were blocked up and an extra freight engine, No 82, east, just due, ran into the wreck and a terrible scene followed. Engine No. 82 was turned over and hurled up on the bank a complete wreck, and eight cars loaded with glass and merchandise were not only wrecked, but caught fire from the engine and the flames rapidly spread to the surrounding cars. When they saw the wreck ahead of them the engineer and fireman of engine No. 82 jumped, but did not escape. Engineer George Diffenderfer was so badly scalded by escaping steam that the flesh fell off his legs. Fireman Samuel Craig was also terribly scalded, his leg was broken and injured so badly internally that his recovery is not possible. Both men were taken to their homes in Harrisburg this morning. Brakeman C. Frownfelter, of Harrisburg, was buried under the wreck and burned to death, and his body has not been found. Wreckers from Columbia and Parkesburg were quickly despatched to the scene, as was a fire-engine from this city, but up to noon the flames were not extinguished. All travel is blocked.

2 P. M.—Both the injured men died on their way home. Fireman Craig died as the train reached Elizabetown, and engineer Diffenderfer as they were taking him from the train at Harrisburg. Both were married men. The fire at the wreck is extinguished and one track will be clear in half an hour. The charred body of the brakeman has been found.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Advices received at the Post Office Department from Postmasters show an alarming increase in small pox cases in all sections of the country. In some cases—notably one in New York State—the department has been appealed to by postmasters to adopt some method of protecting them from infected mail matter, even to the extent of stopping the mail altogether if other means fail. The postal authorities are considering the matter, and are disposed to take any steps that may be feasible in this direction. Some days ago the Department directed the surety of the Postmaster at Walla Walla, Washington Territory, to take charge and remove the office and effects for the reason that small pox has appeared in the family of the Postmaster. It is now learned that in attempting to discharge this duty, the surety contracted the disease, and has since died.

New York, Dec. 30.—This morning Henry Weinstein, aged fourteen, a jeweller's apprentice, was shot in the heart and instantly killed in the office of Marcus Stern, an engraver, at No. 63 Nassau Street. Weinstein was employed by the firm of Freedman & Dobblebaum, jewellers, and was sent this morning to the engravers for some rings belonging to his employer. John Maas, an office boy, was in charge of the engraver's shop, and in searching for the rings, the latter came on a revolver which he placed on a desk. Weinstein took this up, and Maas endeavored to get it from him, when the weapon exploded, and Weinstein fell with a bullet in his chest, and expired. Maas was arrested while standing over Weinstein's body, and to the Coroner related the facts of the shooting as above. He was remanded pending a further investigation of the case.

We give here what may be called a representative incident in the trial of Guiteau, just to let our people judge of the character of the entire proceedings:

Washington, Dec. 28.—After recess Mr. Scoville entered the court room with the plaster cast of Guiteau's head, which was taken by Clark Mills some days since. It was examined by the experts, reporters, and others, and created quite a stir for a few minutes.

For Additional News see Eighth Page.

FRANKLIN AND MARSHALL COLLEGE, LANCASTER, PA.

The Winter Term of this Institution will begin on Thursday, Jan. 5, at ten o'clock, A.M. The address will be delivered by Rev. J. H. Dubbs, D. D., Subject: "The Function of the Imagination in the Study of History." Applicants for admission will please address

REV. T. G. APPLE, D. D., *President.*

NOTICE.

The Tri Synodic Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States, will meet for organization and other business, at 9 o'clock A. M, on the 5th of January, 1882, in the Lecture Room of the First Reformed Church Lancaster, Pa. J O. MILLER, Pres. York, December 30.h, 1881.

A LIST OF PREMIUMS FOR NEW SUBSCRIBERS FOR "THE MESSENGER."

As an inducement to any one who may be disposed to exert himself in procuring new subscribers for "THE MESSENGER," we offer the following as premiums:—

For *one* new cash subscriber, one copy of "Psalms and Hymns," plain.

For *two* new cash subscribers, one copy "Golden Censer," emb., gilt, or "Family Assistant," by Dr. S. R. Fisher, or "Notes on Catechism," by Rev. A C. Whitmer.

For *three* new cash subscribers, one copy of "Sinai and Zion," by Dr. B. Bausman, or "Creeds and Customs," by Dr. G. B. Russell, or "Heavenly Home," by Dr. H. Harbaugh, or "Artist and His Mission," by Dr. W. M. Reily, or "Order of Worship," plain, or "Psalms and Hymns," imitation morocco, gilt, or "Golden Censer," imitation gilt.

For *four* new cash subscribers, one copy "Psalms and Hymns," turkey antique, or large (12mo) roan, or "Notes on Catechism," and "Family Assistant," or "Golden Censer," turkey antique, or "Order of Worship and Hymns," embossed gilt.

For *five* new cash subscribers, one copy "Hymns for Reformed Church," imitation Turkey gilt, or "Order of Worship," imitation morocco, full gilt, or "Sinai and Zion," and "Wayside Gleanings," by Dr. B. Bausman, or "Ursinus Commentary."

For *ten* new cash subscribers, 1 sett, 3 vols. "Harbaugh's Future Life," or 1 sett, 5 vols. "Lives of Church Fathers," or "Sinai and Zion," "Wayside Gleanings," "Lives of the Apostles," by Rev. D. F. Brendle, and "Notes on Catechism."

For any number of subscribers above ten, we will furnish such books as are offered as premiums for numbers as above stated, subject to the selection of the party procuring the subscribers.

All communications and monies are to be sent to Reformed Church Publication Board, 907 Arch street, Philadelphia, Pa.

FATHERS OF THE REFORMED CHURCH.

LIBERAL OFFER.

In order to sell off the balance on hand of this work between now and January 1, 1882, I offer it at the following special rates: $1.25 per vol., or $5.00 for the full set of five vols. I am now getting out a small edition of Vol. 1 to complete the set which was broken by the exhaustion of that volume.

The above figures include postage until the time specified.

All persons who expect ever to get this work, will do well to buy now. Vol. 5 is not stereotyped and will not be reprinted after present edition is exhausted,

Active agents are wanted upon good terms. Address DANIEL MILLER, Publisher, Reading, Pa., or Ref. Church Pub. Board, 907 Arch street, Phila.

Also for sale one full set the Mercersburg Review.

N. B.—Owing to circumstances beyond our control, the issuing of an edition of Volume I. has been delayed. It is, however, now going through the press. and will soon be ready for distribution. The above offer, in consequence, is extended to April 1, 1882. Parties that have already ordered the full set will receive them in due time.

Business Department.

☞ To Subscribers.

PLEASE EXAMINE YOUR LABEL AND

Renew Your Subscription!

Notice the revised terms on First Page, and be governed by them in your transactions with us!

Renew Subscriptions for "GUARDIAN," "CHILD'S TREASURY," "LESSON PAPERS," "SUNSHINE," and "REFORMED QUARTERLY" for 1882.

THE NEW BOOK.

THE ARTIST AND HIS MISSION.

A study in Æsthetics by Rev. W. M. Reily, Ph. D., Professor Palatinate College. Price, $1.50, postage paid.

Address Author, Myerstown, Pa., or, Ref. Church Publication Board, 907 Arch St., Phila.

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE LATE

Rev. SAMUEL R. FISHER D. D.

An excellent likeness of Rev. S. R. Fisher, D.D. Cabinet size, Price 30 cents. Also, Portrait of the late Rev. Samuel R. Fisher, D.D. We can furnish to Sunday-schools, copies of the Portrait of Dr. Fisher like that to be found in the August number of "*Guardian*," on fine tinted paper, at the rate of $1.50 per hundred. Address

Reformed Church Publication Board, 907 Arch Street, Philadelphia.

THE NEW TESTAMENT.

(Revised Version.)

Copies in all styles and at all prices, to be had of

Reformed Church Publication Board. 907 Arch Street, Philadelphia.

THE APOSTLES:

THEIR LIVES AND LABORS.

By REV. D. F. BRENDLE, A. M.

This work has just left the press, and is now ready. It is gotten up in beautiful style, printed from new type and on excellent papee. It is written in a plain, practical and pointed style, and will be read with great interest. The book ought to find its way into every Christian family. Address,

Reformed Church Publication Board, 907 Arch St., Phila., Pa.

THE NEW BOOK.

"THE OFFICE OF DEACON AND ITS PRACTICAL WORK." By Rev. L. D. Steckel.

This little book should be in the hands of every Deacon. Pastors should attend to this. 10 cents per copy, or $1.00 per dozen, postpaid. Address Reformed Church Publication Board, 907 Arch Street, Philadelphia. Pa.

A NEW TRACT.

We would announce that the tract upon "The Duty of Receiving and Giving," prepared by Rev. E. V. Gerhart, D. D., by order of the Eastern Synod, has just left the press. It is a tract of eight pages, and can be supplied at the rate of 25 cts. per dozen, postage 2 cents; or $2 per hundred, postage extra. We will be pleased to fill orders for any amount.

REF'D CH. PUB. BOARD, 907 Arch St., Phila., Pa.

To Pastors and Superintendents.

MISSIONARY SERVICES just published by us is what is needed for Missionary Festivals. Price $1.00 per hundred, and 10 cts. for postage. Sent for a Sample Copy. Reformed Church Publication Board, 907 Arch Street, Philada.

CONFIRMATION.

A Tract for Catechumens.

By Rev. A. C. Whitmer. New Edition. Eight cents per copy; seventy-five cents per dozen. Postage paid. Address

REFORMED CHURCH PUBLICATION BOARD, 907 Arch Street, Philadelphia.

SUPPLIES FOR

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

LIBRARIES, REWARD CARDS, TICKETS, &c., &c., at as low prices as they can be purchased elsewhere, to be had at our store. We hope that those who are in need of such will give *our*—rather *their*—store the preference. Bear in mind *we* can furnish you with everything in this line at the same rates as they can be obtained anywhere else. Give us a trial!

HYMNS & MUSIC BOOKS FOR SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

HYMNS AND CAROLS, by Miss Alice Nevin. $4.50 per doz.

COMPANION OF PRAISE, by Rev. Dr. Van Horne, D. D. $3 per doz.

SONG TREASURY, by J. H. Kurzenknabe. $3.60 per doz.

SILVER ECHOES, *New*, by J. H. Kurzenknabe. For Primary and Intermediate Classes, $2.40 per doz.

Also all Music Books published at Publishers prices. We solicit orders for any of the above, which will be promptly and satisfactorily filled.

SUPPLIES FOR

OUR MINISTERS.

We have a full line of Sermon, Note, Cap and Letter Paper, Envelops, Inks, &c., &c., Scratch Tablets of all sizes, &c., &c., at reasonable prices.

We can also fill orders for Miscellaneous Books at prices as *low as offered by any house in the trade.*

We respectfully solicit the patronage of the Church. Address

Reformed Church Publication Board, 907 ARCH ST., PHILA., PA.

Youth's Department.

STRIVE, WAIT AND PRAY.

A. A. PROCTOR.

Strive: yet I do not promise
The prize you dream of to-day
Will not fade when you think to grasp it,
And melt in your hand away;
But another and holier treasure,
You would now perchance disdain,
Will come when your toil is over,
And pay you for all your pain.

Wait, yet I do not tell you
The hour you long for now
Will not come with its radiance vanished,
And a shadow upon its brow;
Yet, far through the misty future,
With a crown of starry light,
An hour of joy you know not
Is winging her silent flight.

Pray: though the gift you ask for
May never comfort your fears,
May never repay your pleading,
Yet pray, and with hopeful tears;
An answer, not that you long for,
But choicer, will come one day;
Your eyes are too dim to see it,
Yet strive, and wait, and pray.

THE LITTLE MATCH GIRL.

Most terribly cold it was; it snowed, and was nearly quite dark, and evening—the last evening of the year. In this cold and darkness there went along the street a poor little girl, bareheaded, and with naked feet. When she left home she had slippers on, it is true; but what was the good of that? They were very large slippers, which her mother had hitherto worn; so large were they; and the poor little thing lost them as she scuffled away across the street, because of two carriages that rolled by dreadfully fast. One slipper was nowhere to be found; the other had been laid hold of by an urchin, and off he ran with it; he thought it would do capitally for a cradle when he some day should have children himself. So the little maiden walked on with her tiny naked feet, that were quite red and blue from cold. She carried a quantity of matches in an old apron, and she held a bundle of them in her hand. Nobody had bought anything of her the whole livelong day; no one had given her a single farthing.

She crept along trembling with cold and hunger—a very picture of sorrow, the poor little thing!

The flakes of snow covered her long fair hair, which fell in beautiful curls around her neck; but of that, of course, she never once now thought. From all the windows the candles were gleaming, and it smelt so deliciously of roast goose, for you know it was new year's eve; yes, of that she thought.

In a corner formed by two houses, of which one advanced more than the other, she seated herself down and cowered together. Her little feet she had drawn close up to her, but she grew colder and colder, and to go home she did not venture, for she had not sold any matches and could not bring a farthing of money: from her father she would certainly get blows, and at home it was cold too, for above her she had only the roof, through which the wind whistled, even though the largest cracks were stopped up with straw and rags.

Her little hands were almost numbed with cold. Oh! a match might afford her a world of comfort, if she only dared take a single one out of the bundle, draw it against the wall, and warm her fingers by it. She drew one out. "Rischt!" how it blazed, how it burnt! It was a warm, bright flame, like a candle, as she held her hand over it: it was a wonderful light. It seemed really to the little maiden as though she were sitting before a large iron stove, with burnished brass feet and a brass ornament at top. The fire burned with such blessed influence; it warmed so delightfully. The little girl had already stretched out her feet to warm them too; but—the small flame went out, the stove vanished; she had only the remains of the burnt out match in her hand.

She rubbed another against the wall: it burned brightly, and where the light fell on the wall, there the wall became transparent like a veil, so that she could see into the room. On the table was spread a snow-white table-cloth; upon it was a splendid porcelain service, and the roast goose was steaming famously with its stuffing of apple and dried plums. And what was still more capital to behold was, the goose hopped down from the dish, reeled about on the floor with knife and fork in its breast, till it came up to the poor little girl; when the match went and nothing but the thick, cold, damp wall was left behind. She lighted another match. Now there she was sitting under the most magnificent Christmas tree: it was still larger, and more decorated than the one which she had seen through the glass door in the rich merchant's house.

Thousands of lights were burning on the green branches, and gaily-colored pictures, such as she had seen in the shop-windows looked down upon her. The little maiden stretched out her hands towards them when—the match went out. The lights of the Christmas tree rose higher and higher, she saw them now as stars in heaven; one fell down and formed a long trail of fire.

"Some one is just dead!" said the little girl; for her grandmother, the only person who had loved her, and who was now no more had told her that, when a star falls, a soul ascends to God.

She drew another match against the wall; it was again light, and in the lustre there stood the old grandmother, so bright and radiant, so mild, and with such an expression of love.

"Grandmother!" cried the little one; "oh, take me with you! You go away when the match burns out; you vanish like the warm stove, like the delicious roast goose, and like the magnificent Christmas tree!" And she rubbed the whole bundle of matches quickly against the wall, for she wanted to be quite sure of keeping her grandmother near her. And the matches gave such a brilliant light that it was brighter than at noonday: never formerly had her grandmother been so beautiful and so tall. She took the little maiden on her arm, and both flew in brightness and in joy so high, so very high, and then above was neither cold, nor hunger, nor anxiety—they were with God.

But in the corner, at the cold hour of dawn, sat the poor girl, with rosy cheeks and with a smiling mouth, leaning against the wall—frozen to death on the last evening of the old year. Stiff and stark sat the child there with her matches, of which one bundle had been burnt. "She wanted to warm herself," people said: no one had the slightest suspicion of what beautiful things she had seen; no one even dreamed of the splendor in which, with her grandmother she had entered on the joys of a new year.—*Hans Christian Andersen.*

A DISGUISED PRINCE.

A pleasant story is told of Rudolf, the Crown Prince of Austria, who, while hunting in Bohemia, entered a grassy clearing where an old woman was feeding her goats. He said to her, "God bless you, Mutterchen? How are you to-day?"

"Ah, how can such a handsome young man speak so friendly to an old woman! Yes, it is a hard life I live, but, God be thanked, I keep healthy."

"Is life, indeed, so hard?" said the young forester.

"Yes, my young master; but it would be worse without these two darling goats, who support and provide for my old age."

"They are, indeed, handsome animals. I should like to buy one."

"Oh, to that I cannot consent—especially now when I have plenty of fresh grass for them."

"If I pay you well, what then?"

"Then, perhaps, I could let you have the old one. It would be a shame to let you have the young one."

"But it is the young one I want."

"No, no, impossible. She gives me seven seidel of milk daily. I couldn't spare her; but the other is also good; you can have her for four gulden."

"But I will give you six gulden and take the younger."

"That is a heap of money! Young master is surely not a butcher. God bless you; but will the poor goat be fed well by you?"

"Of course, so the bargain is made," and he handed a ten-florin note. "Here, give me four florins change."

"Ah, dear master, you must be fond of joking. In my attic room down there in the valley I have not ten kreutzers, much less"—

"That is unlucky; but here take the ten-florin note, and in eight days I will come back here for the change."

"Oh, no; I couldn't be responsible for so much money. Keep your note, and when you change it bring the money to my room down in C——."

"Here is a better offer. Keep the goat for eight days longer, feed it well, and so I will pay you the four gulden change as 'board money' for my goat."

"Four gulden for eight days! No, no, that is too much money, young master. You are really a spendthrift. Surely you must learn to be more careful."

"Ah, little mother; here take the note. Now, expect to hear from me in eight days," and he disappeared.

The poor goat-keeper called after him in vain. One of the retinue, who had been an unobserved witness to the scene, quieted her at last by assuring her that the young forester would return in eight days.

And so he did, by proxy, however, for eight days later, at the very hour of his disappearance, the mayor of the village appeared, and informed the honest old woman that His Imperial Highness, Crown Prince Rudolf, to whom she had sold her goat, desired her to use the ten florins, and begged her to keep the goat for her own, and feed it well.

Words cannot describe the old woman's joy when she learned who her strange visitor really was. Here is a lesson for all—deal kindly with every one, and never assume a haughty manner when thrown into the company of those who happen to be socially our inferiors.

ABOUT GETTING UP IN THE MORNING.

There are two things that all the boys and girls are fully agreed upon. One is, that bed-time always comes too soon, and the other, that Bridget rings the rising bell shamefully early. Getting up in the morning is a great trial to many of us. We feel so rested and comfortable, and yet so uncommonly sleepy. It seems as though our eyes would never come really wide open, and as for dressing, it is a labor that is appalling. Oh, for a good fairy to touch us with her wand, and set us, bright and resolute, right out into the middle of the morning!

The way to get up in the morning is just to do it promptly. The moment you are called decide at once to rise. Do not wait until mother's gentle voice is tired, and Sister Lucy has determined that she will not call you again, and father comes to the foot of the stair, and calls, very seriously, "William!" "Ebenezer!" "Rebecca!" and you feel that you must rise in a hurry. Do not put off getting up until you can hardly take time to match buttons and hooks, and you cannot find which strings belong to each other, and suspenders snap, and buttons fly off boots, and things are generally crooked.

When first you rise, let your thoughts go to God in thankfulness that you are alive and well, and ready to begin another day. Then wash from head to foot, with a sponge and cold water, and dry yourself with a rough crash towel, or take a rub with a stiff flesh-brush. You will feel quite warm and glowing after this exercise, which is the better for being rapidly performed. Dress so neatly and entirely, to the last touch of shoe polish and the last flourish of the hair-brush, that you need think no more about your dress all day. Be sure to attend to your teeth. They are good servants, and have so much work to do that they deserve to be carefully looked after, not with irritating powders, but with a clean brush, pure water, and occasionally a dash of white Castile soap. —*Harper's Young People.*

NOTHING FINISHED.

I once had a curiosity to look into a little girl's work box. And what do you suppose I found?

Well, in the first place, I found a "bead purse," about half done; there was, however, no prospect of it ever being finished, for the needles were out, and the silk upon the spools was all tangled and drawn into a complete wisp. Laying this aside, I took up a nice piece of perforated paper, upon which was wrought one board of a Bible, and beneath it the words, "I love—;" but what she loved was left for me to guess. Beneath the Bible board I found a sock, evidently commenced for some baby foot; but it had come to a stand just upon the little heel, and there it seemed doomed to remain.

Near to the sock was a needle book, one cover of which was neatly made, and upon the other, partly finished, was marked, "To my dear—"

I need not, however, tell you all that I found there; but this much I can say, that during my travels through the work box, I found not a single article complete; and silent as they were, these half finished, forsaken things, told me a sad story about that little girl.

They told me that, with a heart full of generous affection, with a head full of useful and pretty projects, all of which she had both the means and the skill to carry into effect, she was still a useless child—always doing but never accomplishing her work. It was not a want of industry, but a want of perseverance.

Remember, my dear young friends, that it matters but little what great thing we merely undertake. Our glory is not in that, but in what we accomplish. Nobody in the world cares for what we mean to do; but everybody will open their eyes by and by to see what men and women and children have done.—*Children's Friend.*

SORE LET AND HINDERED.

BY ELLEN HAILE.

Against the storm goes struggling
A little, rosy girl,
The snow is beating earthward,
And flakes about her whirl.

Yet on she goes and onward,
Against the roaring wind,
The skies are growing darker,
The path is hard to find.

But on and on she pushes,
'Gainst storm and wind and cold,
Until her home she reaches,
That dear, safe, earthly fold.

'Gainst care and storms and darkness,
'Gainst earthly pain and woes,
More hard to fight and conquer
Than any wind that blows.

Sore let we are and hindered,
Through all this earthly race,
If up we try, and onward,
Toward heaven to set our face.

Yet, if we struggle onward,
When earthly things are past,
Our fold, the heavenly mansions,
We'll surely reach at last.

—*Churchman.*

THE BLOOD OF CHRIST.

An old herdsman in England was taken to a London hospital to die. His grandchild would go and read to him. One day she was reading in the first chapter of the First Epistle of John, and came to the words, "And the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanseth us from all sin;" the old man raised himself up and stopped the little girl, saying, with great earnestness:

"Is that there, my dear?"

"Yes, grandpa."

"Then read it to me again—I never heard it before."

She read it again: "The blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanseth us from all sin."

"You are quite sure that is there?"

"Yes, *quite sure*, grandpa."

"Then take my hand and lay my finger on the passage, for I want to feel it."

So she took the old, blind man's hand and placed his bony finger on the verse, when he said:

"Now, read it to me again."

With a soft, sweet voice she read: "And the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanseth us from all sin."

"You are quite sure that is there?"

"Yes, *quite sure*, grandpa."

"Then if any one should ask how I died tell them I died in the faith of these words: 'The blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanseth us from all sin.'"

With that the old man withdrew his hand, his head fell softly back on the pillow, and he silently passed into the presence of Him whose blood cleanseth from all sin.

THE SABBATH A LOVING DAY.

"Mother, I suppose one reason why they call the Sabbath a holy day is because it's such a *loving* day," said a little boy as he stood by his father's side, and looked up into his mother's face.

"Why, is not every day a loving day?" asked his mother. "I love father, and father loves me, and we both love you and baby, every day as well as Sunday."

"Well, but you've no time to *tell* us so on week days," said the little boy. "You have to work, and father has to go off early to his work, and he is so tired when he comes home. But Sunday he takes me on his knee and tells me Bible stories, and we go to church together; and oh, 'ti such a *loving* day!"

Pleasantries.

"I don't like that cat. It's got splinters in its feet!" was the excuse of a four-year-old for throwing the kitten away.

Will the coming man shut the door behind him? is the latest inquiry. It is to be hoped that he will; for the going man seldom does.

This has been a very healthy fall. Quite a number of Western rivers, that have been confined to their beds for years, are now leaving them.

"You are now one," said the minister to a happy pair he had just tied together with a knot they could never undo. "Which one?" asked the bride. "You will have to settle that for yourselves," said the clergyman.

"Ma, haven't I been a real good boy since I've been going to Sunday-school?" "Yes, my lamb," answered the maternal parent, fondly. "And you trust me now, don't you, ma?" "Yes, darling." "Then," spoke up the little innocent, "what makes you keep the preserves locked up in the pantry the same as ever?"

"Oh, yes," said Mrs. Brown, as she surveyed with evident pleasure her little parlor sideboard, covered with old china and decorated with highly colored tiles. "Mr. B. remarked last night that I was becoming quite an atheist," and the old lady's countenance fairly beamed with delight as her eyes rested on a sixteen-cent Japanese teapot.—*Newark Call.*

An Augusta man "gave himself away" the worst kind in Boston the other day. He went to that city on business, and put up at one of the first-class hotels. The clerk gave his baggage and the key of his room to a porter, who conducted the Augusta gentleman to the elevator. Closing the door, they began to ascend, unperceived by the traveler. He eyed the four walls of the elevator a moment and exclaimed: "Take my baggage back to the office; you can't put me in a little room like this?"

A clergyman in Connecticut says that the churches do not appeal enough to the imagination. No sooner does a man enter a church fair than he is compelled to imagine that ice cream contains cream, that a stew was cooked within a mile of an oyster, that No. 5 slippers will fit a No. 8 foot, and that the clergyman who receives the most votes for a dressing-gown is the most popular clergyman in town. Imagination, as applied to church fairs, is a glorious cheat, and finds its excuse on the ground that it affords a pleasant and easy way of giving something for a good cause.

Religious Intelligence.

At Home.

The Lutheran Insurance League has now about 450 members, and has, since its organization, given over $28,000 to thirty-seven widows of departed brethren.

The American Unitarian Association has taken steps to have a new commentary on the Old and New Testaments prepared. It has also appointed a missionary to labor among the Scandinavians of the West.

They do things in a hurry out West. While Rev. Josiah McLain, of Silver Cliff, Colorado, was absent at a meeting of Presbytery (about a week) his people built an addition to the parsonage and put a new carpet on the sitting-room.

A ruling Elder having been made Moderator of the Greenbrier Presbytery, Virginia, the Synod of Virginia has taken exception to the innovation. A case for appeal will be made up for the next General Assembly of the Southern Presbyterian Church.

The Lutheran Synod of Missouri numbers 747 pastors, 970 congregations, 40,722 voting (male) members. It has 868 parochial schools with 44,323 children in attendance. The baptisms last year were 18,735; confirmations, 8,380; funerals, 6,640.

Some of the Reformed (Dutch) churches in the West are in trouble over the question of Masonry. The larger part of the church in Grand Rapids, Mich., has seceded, and carried the pastor along with it. The pastor has been suspended for schism by the Classis of Grand River. Both parties in the church claim the property, and have appealed to the civil court.

The American delegates to the Ecumenical Methodist Conference have united in a call for a centennial conference to be held in December, 1884, the centenary of the organization of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to be composed of representatives of all the Methodist branches in the United States. It is probable that the conference will meet in Baltimore, where in 1784 the Methodist Episcopal Church was organized.

Bishop Tuttle, of Utah, and several prominent clergymen and mission workers of the Protestant Episcopal, Catholic, Presbyterian, Methodist, and Congregational churches in Salt Lake City, have addressed to the ministers of the different Churches in the United States an appeal which sets forth in a striking light many facts concerning the evils of Mormonism. The request is made that these facts be brought by clergymen to the attention of the Congressmen in their districts, in order that the evils complained of may be remedied at the coming session of Congress.

The Protestant Episcopal Church, according to Whittaker's *Church Almanac* for 1882, has not gained as much in the present as in the previous years. The net increase of communicants is 3,739. There is a decrease of 3,000 in baptisms, of 50 in confirmations, and of 40 candidates for orders. Other items indicate increase. The summary is as follows: bishops, 64; other clergy, 3,466; parishes, 3,035; mission stations, 1,229; candidates for orders, 391; ordinations—deacons, 139; priests, 118; baptisms, 44,963; confirmations, 25,401; communicants, 344,580; Sunday School teachers, 34,363; scholars, 304,952; contributions, $7,311,784.

The Rev. Dr. Theodore L. Cuyler, of Brooklyn, has been listening for several Sundays to his fellow-preachers in New York and Brooklyn while his own church is being repaired. He found the sensation caused by listening a strange one, and learned many things that he had never known before about the effect of a preacher's words. One thing that he observed was that each sermon was "mightily helped or hindered, made or marred," by its delivery. "The range and effect of the projectile," he writes, "depends very much on the power that sent it forth. A good thought, clumsily shaped or tamely uttered, seemed to fall lifeless from the lips; whereas, a more common thought, well rounded like a bullet and discharged with a percussion, penetrated every ear and heart. For example:—Dr. Taylor, during his excellent discourse, delivered a half dozen very simple and homely sentences that went through me like quicksilver. He put his whole soul behind them and sent them through mine. I noticed the same thing while listening to Mr. Spurgeon last summer, in London. Blood-earnestness was more than half the battle." It might have a good effect if other clergymen would take their places from time to time in the pews.

Abroad.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has written a letter to the clergy anxiously directing attention, from a Christian point of view, to the vast movements of people which for years have been going from Europe to the British colonies, especially between England and America. He says an endeavor is about to be made to establish more direct communication between the Church at home and the colonial Church, with a view to the spiritual welfare of the emigrants. The Archbishop says the proposal has obtained the hearty consent of many Anglican Bishops of America.

A touching story of Christian devotion comes from the South Sea Islands. When the news of the massacre of twelve native missionaries in New Guinea arrived in the other islands of the Pacific, and request was made in the island of Tahiti that three men should be sent to supply the place of those who had fallen, all the students in the college volunteered, so that they had actually to cast lots who should be the three to go.

Several meetings of the Reformed Protestant Church of France were held recently at Marseilles. The General Synod was composed of eighty members, of whom forty-one were pastors and thirty-nine laymen named by the districts synods. The delegates came from all parts of France. Among the subjects discussed were the question of assistant pastors or evangelists, military service for theological students and pastors, and primary instruction. On the fourth day the question of Biblical revision was introduced. The assembly decided that a special commission should be appointed to examine the French translations of the Bible, and to make a report upon the subject to the coming General Synod.

The bishops or superintendents of the State Church of Prussia are certainly not overpaid. In the Province of Brandenburg there are 2,000 congregations, with 45 bishops or superintendents to ordain and induct pastors and elders, to conduct parochial elections, to consecrate churches, inspect churches and schools, and generally to carry on a large amount of correspondence. For this work they get nothing except their travelling expenses, which are paid by the congregations. The state gives them their title, but adds no pay. The synod of the province this year discussed the question of bishops' incomes, and decided that they might have $25 a year for office expenses, together with a gratuity varying according to parochial income. One of these bishops has an income of $410 a year and seven others have incomes falling below $750.

The autumnal session of the Baptist Union of Great Britain was held in two sections, one at Portsmouth and the other at Southampton. Mr. Spurgeon preached at both meetings to crowded congregations. At Portsmouth he was the guest of Canon and Mrs. Wilberforce. The correspondent of the *National Baptist* thus refers to the fact:—"It is especially noteworthy that Mr. Spurgeon was the guest of Canon Wilberforce (one of the sons of the late Bishop Wilberforce, and grandson of the eminent philanthropist), who is rector of St. Mary's parish, Southampton. In his parish monthly magazine, the Canon announced the meetings of the Baptist Union, and urged his people to reciprocate the hospitable reception which the Church Congress had received at Leicester and other places from the Nonconformists, by offering to entertain some of the Baptist ministers and delegates. And to commend his pastoral counsel he adds:—'The Rev. C. H. Spurgeon will be the guest of the rector, at the Deanery.'"

The biennial meeting of the Synod of the Free Churches of France was held last month, in Paris, under the presidency of Dr. E de Pressense. The Union of Free Churches was established in 1849 by Frederick Monod, Count de Gasparin, and others, who withdrew from the Reformed Church, because the synod of that body had refused to declare the divinity of Christ as one of the fundamental doctrines of the Church. The Union has gained but little strength, numbering only 43 churches in all; but it is patiently waiting for the day when the Evangelical party of the Reformed Church will renounce its state connection, when, doubtless, a union of the two bodies will be brought about. Much of the attention of the Synod was given to the condition of several of the poorer churches, and it was resolved that, if the churches consented, they should be reduced to stations and be supported by the evangelistic committee. It was also voted to propose to the Wesleyan Conference that in small villages in the south, where a Free and also a Methodist Church exist, a union be effected between the two, and thus time, money, and energy be economized.—*Independent.*

FASHION DRAPERY

Is the cheapest and most elegant fabric for curtain draperies.

Price 90 cts. a Yard.

62 inches wide; Satin finish both sides; very heavy; soft as down; all mode shades; superb to embroider for table or piano covers.

FOR SALE BY A. T. Stewart & Co., Arnold, Constable & Co., Lord & Taylor, John Wanamaker, Strawbridge & Clothier, } N. Y. Phila.

and by all First-Class Dealers throughout the nation.

SEND FOR SAMPLES FREE.

ALL WHO NEED DRYGOODS SHOULD SEND TO US FOR SAMPLES AND THEREBY SECURE THE ADVANTAGES OF THE LARGEST STOCK & LOWEST PRICES.

STRAWBRIDGE & CLOTHIER. 8TH. & MARKET STS. PHILADA.

WILLIAM A. DROWN & CO'S UMBRELLAS

FOR SALE BY THE BEST DEALERS.

IMPROVEMENTS—NEW STYLES—NEW CATALOGUE.

THE MASON & HAMLIN ORGAN CO.

Whose cabinet or parlor organs have won HIGHEST HONORS AT EVERY ONE of the GREAT WORLD'S INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITIONS for FOURTEEN YEARS (being the only American organs which have been found worthy of such at any), have effected MORE and GREATER PRACTICALLY VALUABLE IMPROVEMENTS in their Organs in the LAST YEAR than in any similar period since the first introduction of this instrument by them, twenty years since; and are now offering ORGANS OF HIGHER EXCELLENCE and ENLARGED CAPACITY; also popular MEDIUM and SMALLER STYLES of IMPROVED QUALITY, and at LOWER PRICES; $22, $30, $54, $60 and upwards. A NEW ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE, 36 pp., 4to, is now ready (October, 1881), fully describing and illustrating more than 100 styles of Organs. This, with *net prices*, and circulars containing much information about organs generally, which will be useful to every one thinking of purchasing, will be sent *free and postpaid*. Address MASON & HAMLIN ORGAN CO., 154 Tremont St., BOSTON; 46 East 14th St., NEW YORK; or, 149 Wabash Ave., CHICAGO.

The Henry F. Miller Pianos

C. J. HEPPE PIANOS AND ORGANS 6th AND Thompson Sts. PHILADELPHIA.

The Palace System. American Organs. Used by all Great Artists. Have no superior in tone and workmanship.

HOLIDAY MUSIC!

Send the price mentioned below, and receive by return mail one of these splendid new music books for Holiday Presents.

Norway Music Album, $2.50 plain, $3 cloth, $4 gilt.
Beauties of Sacred Song. 58 Songs. Elegant.
Gems of English Song. The best and newest.
Gems of Strauss. Brightest music.
Franz's Album of Song. Best German Songs.
Creme de la Creme. 2 vols. Standard Piano Music.
Rhymes and Tunes. $1.50 Charming Nursery and Kindergarten Songs.

PRICE OF EACH BOOK, $3.00 Fine Gilt, $2.50 Cloth, $2.00 Board.

PIANO SCORES, containing all the airs of OLIVETTE. MASCOT. PATIENCE. } 50 cents each.

OLIVER DITSON & CO., Boston
J. E. DITSON & CO., 1228 Chestnut St., Phila

THE WHITE IS KING.

It has the finest finished wood-work and the BEST MADE MACHINE in the market. Its shuttle is self-threading; its needle is self-setting; its bobbins can be filled without removing work or attachments. Its construction and operation is so simple that a child can run it. Light running, but a child can run it. It makes more money than any other. Agents can make more money handling the "White" than any other. Address, for particulars, WHITE SEWING MACHINE CO. CLEVELAND, OHIO.

THE DINGEE & CONARD CO'S BEAUTIFUL EVER-BLOOMING ROSES

SPLENDID POT PLANTS, *specially prepared for* House Culture and Winter Bloom. Delivered safely by mail, postpaid, at all post offices. 5 splendid varieties, your choice, all labeled, for $1; 12 for $2; 19 for $3; 26 for $4; 35 for $5; 75 for $10; 100 for $13. We GIVE AWAY, in Premiums and Extras, more ROSES than most establishments grow. Our NEW GUIDE, *a complete Treatise on the Rose, 70 pp. elegantly illustrated—free to all.*

THE DINGEE & CONARD CO.
Rose Growers, West Grove, Chester Co., Pa.

LANDRETH'S SEEDS
THE BEST. DAVID LANDRETH AND SONS, 21 and 23 South Sixth Street, Philadelphia.

PENN MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO. No. 921 Chestnut Street, PHILADELPHIA.
ASSETS..$7,750,000
SURPLUS. 1,650,000
SAMUEL C. HUEY, Pres.
PURELY MUTUAL. *Dividends annually. Policies non-forfeiting for their value. Endowment policies issued at life rates.* Agents wanted.
Apply to H. S. STEPHENS, Vice-President.

ALSO FOR THE DWELLING!

A. J. WEIDENER CHURCH LAMPS

Finished in Bronze, Antique Brass and Electroplate. Colors to suit furniture and carpet. Made to extend to table when in use. Perfectly safe. Send for book of designs, *free.* Address A. J. WEIDENER, 36 South Second St., Phila.

WM. B. WEAVER & CO.,
UNDERTAKERS.
No. 554 North Fifth St., Philadelphia.
Wm. B. Weaver. Chas. McCormick. Chas. M. Carpon

WILLIAM STUARD,
UNDERTAKER,
660 NORTH TENTH STREET, PHILADELPHIA

CUMBERLAND VALLEY R. R.

TIME TABLE.—May 16, 1881.

DOWN TRAINS.	Hb'g Exp. A. M.	Mail Train A. M.	Phil. Exp. A. M.	N. Y. Exp. P. M.	Acc.
Leave Martinsburg	———	7 30	10 00	4 00	.....
" Hagerstown,	———	8 20	12 10	5 00	.....
" Greencastle	———	8 48	12 38	5 25	.....
" Marion	———	9 00	12 50	5 36	.....
" Chambersburg	4 35	9 20	1 05	5 50	.....
" Shippensburg	5 00	9 47	1 20	6 12	.....
" Newville	5 28	10 11	1 53	6 33	.....
" Carlisle	6 00	10 40	2 29	6 55	8 00
" Mechanicsburg	6 26	11 06	2 46	7 18	8 30
Arrive Harrisburg	*6 55	11 35	2 15	7 45	9 00
	A. M.	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	A. M.

*Arrives Philadelphia 10.10 a. m.

UP TRAINS.	N. Y. Exp. A. M.	Acc. A. M.	Mail. P. M.	Phil. Exp. P. M.	H'bg Exp. P. M.
Leave Harrisburg	4 15	8 00	12 30	4 00	*8 45
" Mechanicsburg	4 39	8 29	12 59	4 29	9 14
" Carlisle	5 02	8 55	1 25	4 55	9 40
" Newville	5 25	9 22	1 51	5 20	10 06
" Shippensburg	5 47	9 47	2 14	5 44	10 30
" Chambersburg	6 12	10 15	2 40	6 15	10 55
" Marion	6 23	10 30	2 53	6 27	.....
" Greencastle	6 35	10 45	3 05	6 38	.....
" Hagerstown	7 00	11 30	3 40	7 09	.....
Arrive Martinsburg	———	12 30	4 30	8 40	
	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	

An accommodation train leaves Harrisburg at 6:10 p. m.; Mechanicsburg 6:38 p. m.; arriving at Carlisle, 7:08 p. m.
* Leaves Philadelphia 5:30 p. m.

SOUTHERN PENNSYLVANIA R. R. TRAINS.

Mail p. m.	Mix. a. m.			Mail a. m.	Mix. p. m.
5 20	8 20	Lve	Chambersburg Arr	9 10	6 00
5 36	9 00	"	Marion "	8 55	5 30
6 15	10 09	"	Mercersburg "	8 10	4 15
6 37	1 55	"	Loudon "	7 48	3 40
6 45	1 10	Arr	Richmond Lve	7 40	3 25

A. H. McCULLOH, Gen' Ticket Agent, J. F. BOYD Supt.

ONLY YOUNG MEN'S AND BOYS' LIFE OF PRESIDENT GARFIELD. "From Log Cabin to White House" by author of "Bobbin Boy," "Pioneer Boy," etc. *Published since his election. Captivates old and young* with the story of his noble life, now doubly dear. Elegant 12mo, 416 pp. $1.50. One Agent says, "*I never saw anything take like it.*" Send 50c. for Canvassing Book and help supply the demand. Terms, etc., free.
JAS. H. EARLE, 178 Washington St, Boston, Mass.

AGENTS! BOOK AGENTS!
SUNLIGHT AND SHADOW
By *John B. Gough*
This is the *best* book to *make money* on ever offered to you. It is the *fastest selling* book ever published. For Pathos, Spicy Humor, and Thrilling Interest it is without a peer. Ministers say "*God Speed it.*" Everyone laughs and cry's over it. Tens of Thousands are now waiting for it. It is the "*booming*" *book for Agents.* 45th *thousand* in press. 1000 Agents wanted, men and women. Now is the harvest time. *Exclusive Territory*, and *Special Terms given.* *Send for Circulars* to A. D. WORTHINGTON & CO., Hartford, Conn.

EDW. J. ZAHM,
MANUFACTURING JEWELER,
ZAHM'S CORNER, LANCASTER, PA.
We have added to our business a complete MANUFACTURING DEPARTMENT, and are prepared to make up any special orders in jewelry Persons desiring anything made to their own order or design for
CHRISTMAS GIFTS,
will oblige by sending in their orders early. We will ship to any responsible person, sending an order with acceptable references, goods for selection, or if preferred, we will select and send subject to exchange if not satisfactory.
COMMUNION SETS
for Church service or for pastors' use, made to our own order, and *extra heavy plated.* We call special attention to the
LANCASTER WATCH,
believing it to be the best American watch now in the market. We solicit correspondence, and are confident that quality being equal, our prices are as low as any house in the U. S. Address
EDWARD J. ZAHM,
LANCASTER, PA.

IVINS, DIETZ & MAGEE,
Wholesale and Retail Dealers in
CARPETINGS,
OIL CLOTH,
WHITE CANTON MATTINGS,
FANCY
RED CHECK MATTINGS,
RUGS, MATS, &c.
NO. 52 SOUTH SECOND STREET,
AND
NO. 43 STRAWBERRY STREET,
Above Chestnut,
PHILADELPHIA.
First Street west of Second.
A full assortment of the latest styles at low prices.

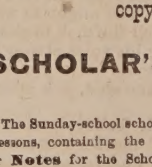
300 Choice Poetical Selections for Autograph Albums, neatly bound; 250 Motto Verses, and 25 popular Songs, all for 12c., post paid. PATTEN & WADE, 49 Barclay St., N. Y.

$66 a week in your own town. Terms and $5 out free. Address H. HALLETT & Co., Portland, Maine.

PARTRIDGE & RICHARDSON,
BEE-HIVE STORES.
GIMPS
FRINCES

BUTTONS
LACES
17, 19 and 21 North Eighth Street.
PHILADELPHIA.

Established 1863.
KEYSTONE Slate and Soapstone Works.
SLATE MANTELS
Of the latest and most beautiful designs, and all other Slate and Soapstone Work on hand or made to order.
JOSEPH S. MILLER, Manufacturer.
Office and Salesroom: 1210 Ridge Avenue.
Factory: 1211 & 1213 Spring Garden St., Philada.
Send for Illustrated Catalogue and Price-List.



W. H. Harrison & Bro.
Manufacturers.
PLAIN AND ARTISTIC
GRATES
AND FIREPLACES
A SPECIALTY.
Also Furnaces and Ranges.
Send for Illustrated Catalogue. 1435 Chestnut St., Philadelphia

$72 A WEEK. $12 a day at home easily made. Costly Outfit free. Address TRUE & Co. Augusta, Maine.

SOUTH Don't locate before seeing our James River Settlement. *Illus catalogue free.* J. F. Mancha, Claremont, Surry Co Va.

1882. 1882.
LESSON HELPS
AND
PERIODICALS
FOR
SUNDAY SCHOOLS,
PUBLISHED BY THE
Reformed Church Publication Board,
REV. CHAS. G. FISHER, Superintendent,
907 Arch Street, Philadelphia.

GUARDIAN.
A monthly Magazine for Young Men and Women and for Sunday-school Teachers. The Sunday-school has a special Department, in which are the **Lessons and Comments**, or **Notes** for use of Teachers. A valuable assistant in the study and teaching of the Sunday-school Lessons from the Reformed standpoint.
Rev. J. H. DUBBS, D. D., Editor.
Single Copy $1.25 per year. Over 5 copies to one address, $1.00 per copy, one year.

SCHOLAR'S QUARTERLY.
The Sunday-school scholar's assistant in the study of the Lessons, containing the **Lessons and Comments**, or **Notes** for the Scholars. Issued Quarterly, four numbers a year.
One No., 5 cts. Single copy, one year, 20 cts. Over 5 copies to one address, 15 cts. each one year.

ADVANCED LESSON PAPER,
$7.80 a hundred, per year.

PRIMARY LESSON PAPER,
FOR THE SMALLER SCHOLARS. Illustrated. $7.80 a hundred, per year.

CHILD'S TREASURY,
An Illustrated Paper. Issued Monthly and Semi-Monthly.
Adapted to the wants of Advanced Scholars.
Rev. R. L. GERHART, Editor.
Single copy, monthly, 25 cts. Semi-monthly, 40 cts. per year. Over 5 copies, to one address, monthly, 15 cts a copy. Semi-monthly, 28 cts. a copy, per year.

SUNSHINE,
An Illustrated Paper for the Little Folks.
Issued Weekly, single copy, 35 cts. per year. Over 5 copies, 25 cts. a copy, per year.

All Subscriptions to be Paid in Advance.
ALL SENT POSTAGE PAID.
Specimen Copies Sent on Application.

Mr. Scoville stated that Mr. Mills was present, and, if no objection was raised, it would consult his convenience to be put upon the stand now to identify the cast.

Judge Porter—"It seems to me, your Hon or, that the convenience of the prisoner, of his counsel, and of the witness should be sub ordinated to the convenience of the Court and the jury, who have already been detained too long upon this case."

Judge Cox—"You may resume the cross-examination of the witness now upon the stand, Mr. Scoville. You shall have an opportunity of introducing the cast before you get through."

Mr. Scoville then put a hypothetical question, which embraced the clause: "Suppose the prisoner believed himself to be a partner with Jesus Christ."

Judge Porter arose and protested against the question as blasphemous, and that it would be a disgrace to a court of justice and to a Christian nation to allow it to be entertained for a moment.

Mr. Scoville replied that if no allusion could be made to what was claimed by the prisoner to be the actuating motive as influences that led to this act, then the whole defence would be wiped away at a single stroke.

Judge Porter proceeded to insist upon his view in his most impressive manner, and declared that the time had come when, in the name of the American people, and on behalf of the Government, in a Federal Court, he felt it his duty to demand that the prisoner be remanded to the dock.

Guiteau (spitefully)—"Oh! you do, you big mouthed Porter!"

The Court officials sitting behind the prisoner attempted to quiet him, when he whirled around and snarled at one of them:—"Well, you mind your own business, or I'll slap you in the mouth, you fool, you."

Judge Porter continued his remarks, and Guiteau again interrupted him, and shouted out: "Well, you had better mind your business."

Judge Porter—"That is my business here to day, and your honor I must now insist upon my motion of Saturday, that the prisoner be removed to the dock."

Mr. Scoville arose to speak, when Judge Cox said: "Let me know, first, if counsel desire to be heard upon the motion to remove the prisoner to the dock."

Judge Davidge then proceeded to speak on the motion. He believed the time had come when every one present was satisfied that the prisoner was perfectly sane in respect of his behaviour and amenable to the same rule as other prisoners. In the case of Gen. Sickles, who was tried in this Court for murder, the Judge refused to deviate from the rule, although he was a distinguished lawyer and a member of Congress at the time, and he sat in the prisoners' dock during his trial.

Mr. Scoville said he would assent to any proposition which might be deemed necessary. No one had suffered more than he had from the prisoner's behavior.

Guiteau (interrupting)—"Well, it's because you are a jackass on this case. If I had decent counsel I shouldn't have any occasion for remarks. You are doing well enough on your theory, but your theory is altogether too narrow. You haven't got brains enough for this case."

Colonel Reed denied the assumption that the prisoner's sanity had been established. No human knowledge could fathom the workings of the insane mind, and humanity would dictate if a reasonable doubt should exist that leniency be extended toward him. He thought an admonition from the Court would suffice.

Colonel Corkhill insisted upon the removal of the prisoner to the dock, and the removal from around him of the special policemen who were not regular attaches of the Court. That he should be kept in the dock with no other special protection than is accorded any other prisoner.

Guiteau, trembling with anger and apprehension, shouted out, "You want to shoot me, do you, Corkhill? You can't convict me, so you want to get me shot. You might as well hang me up outside and tell the mob to shoot at me. I tell you (raising his voice almost to a shriek) God Almighty would curse you sir, if I was put in that dock and shot, you miserable wretch you."

Mr. Scoville, with much feeling, protested against the proposition of the District Attorney, which could not be understood by any one as other than an invitation to all who heard it to shoot the prisoner if opportunity offered.

After a most impressive argument by Judge Porter, in which he repelled the reflection of counsel for the defense upon the District Attorney, Judge Cox gave his opinion, stating that no certain means to silence the prisoner could have been taken that would not have abridged his Constitutional rights where it had been deemed, and he thought rightly, that the prisoner's behavior and utterances would prove the best means of determining his mental condition. He ordered the prisoner removed to the dock which was then done.

Monday, Jan. 2d, was spent very largely in the exchange of New Year's calls. There was an official reception at the White House, Washington, and the custom of "receiving" was kept up throughout the country.

FOREIGN.

London, January 2.—It is stated that Mr. O'Brien, the editor of the *United Ireland*, is about to be released from prison in consideration of his ill health, but that he will be requested to quit the country.

London, Jan. 2.—Two Mormon missionaries who attempted to conduct a service in one of the suburbs of London yesterday were grossly maltreated by a mob.

Vienna, Jan. 2.—The Jewish Committee state that twelve Jews were killed in the riots at Warsaw.

PHILADELPHIA MARKETS.

Wholesale Prices.

SATURDAY, Dec. 31.

FLOUR.—We quote the whole range of prices as follows: Supers at $4@4.50; winter extras at $4.75 @5.50; Pennsylvania family at $6.25@6.50; Ohio and Indiana do. at $6.75@7.25; high grades, $7.30@ 7.50; St. Louis and Southern Illinois do. at $6.87½@ 7.37½; Minnesota bakers' clear at $6.50@6.90; do. straight at $7@7.25, and winter and spring patents at $7.50@8.25, chiefly at $7.75@8, as to quality. Rye Flour moved slowly at $5.25 for pure Pennsylvania, and $4.75@5 for mixtures. Buckwheat Flour was dull at $1@4.25 ₱ cwt. as to quality.

WHEAT.—To day's sales comprised 800 bushels mixed, in elevator, at $1.38; 1600 bushels No. 2 red, in elevator, at $1.40, closing at that asked, with $1.39½ bid spot and December; 45,000 January at $1.40½@1.40⅝, closing at $1.40 bid and $1.40⅝ asked; 20,000 bushels February at $1.43⅜, which was asked, with $1.42⅜ bid at the last call; March was wanted at noon $1.45½ with at $1.45⅝ asked, but closed with sellers at $1.45½ and only $1.45 bid.

CORN.—Sales of 1200 bushels new No. 3, track, at 66½c.; 1600 bushels do., steamer, at 67@68c.; 6300 bushels sail new, afloat, at 68@69½c., 3200 bushels do., track, at 68@68½c.; 800 bushels old mixed, track, a 69@69½c.; 1200 bushels do. yellow at 70c. with 68½c. bid and 68⅝c. asked for sail spot and December in elevator; 20,000 bushels do. January at 68⅜c., closing at that asked, with 68½c. the best bid; 35,000 bushels February at 71½c., with 71½c. bid and 73⅜ asked at the close. At the noon call 73⅜c. was bid and 73½c. asked for March, but at the close 73c. was the best bid, though sellers were still asking 73½c.

OATS.—The market for car lots was quiet and steady with sales of 1 car rejected white and 3 cars No. 2 mixed at 50c.; 2 cars No. 3 white at 51@51½c.; 4 cars No. 2 do. at 52½c. and 1 car do. at 52½c. Futures were dull, and closed at a shade easier with freer offerings. Closing rates were 51⅝c. bid and 52c. asked for December; 51½c. bid and 51⅝c. asked for January; 52c. bid and 52½c. asked for February, and 52½c. bid and 52⅝c. asked for March.

RYE was dull and wholly nominal at 97@98c. for Pennsylvania.

GROCERIES.—Coffee was quiet, but firmly held, with sales of 25 bags ordinary Laguayra at 10½c; 450 bags poor to fair Rio at 7½@10⅝c., and 100 bags ordinary to good do. at 10@11½c. Raw Sugars were quiet and steady at 7⅜@7½c. for fair to good refining muscovados. Refined Sugars were in fair demand and steady at 9⅝c. for cut loaf, crushed and powdered; 9⅜c. for granulated; 9½c. for mould A, and 8⅞c. for standard A.

PROVISIONS.—We quote Mess Pork new at $17 75 @18 25; shoulders in salt, 6½c.; do. smoked 7½c.; pickled shoulders, 7@7½c.; do. smoked, 8½@8½c; pickled bellies, 9⅜@10½c.; smoked do., 10⅜@11½c.; loose butchers' Lard 10c.; prime Western steam do. $11.35@11.37½; city kettle do. 11⅛@11½c. Beef Hams, $21@22, as to brand; smoked Beef, 15@16c.; sweet-pickled Hams, 9¾@10½c., as to average; smoked do., 12½@13c.; extra India Mess Beef, $22@22.50, f. o. b.; city family do., $13.50@14, and packet do., $12.50@13 f. o. b.

BUTTER.—We quote creamery extras at 38@40c.; do. good to prime, at 34@37c.; do. imitation, 30@ 35c.; Bradford and York State extras, fresh, 31@ 32c.; firsts, at 29@30c.; Western extras, fresh, 30@ 32c.; do. good to prime, 25@29c.; rolls, choice, 24@ 25c. do. fair to good, 18@23c.; ordinary, 15@17c.; summer packed, solid, 9@15c., as to quality; common and medium shipping grades, 9@12c.; grease, 4@9c.; prints, fancy, 43c.; do. firsts, 38@42c.; do. seconds, 32@35c.

EGGS.—Jobbing sales were made at 30c. for choice near-by stock, but one or two wholesale transactions on 'Change were recorded at 28c., and there were plenty of sellers at 29c. Western fresh were offered at 26@27c., and inferior lots were nominally quoted at 18@22c., as to condition. Limed quiet at 20@ 22c, as to brand.

CHEESE.—We quote York State full cream choice at 13½@13¾c.; do. good at 12@13c.; Ohio flat; fine, 12½@12⅝c.; do. good to prime, 11½@12½c.; Pennsylvania half-skims, 9@10c., as to quality; do. skims, 6@8c. for fair to prime down to 2@3c. inferior.

POULTRY.—Dressed was very scarce, and parties in need of supplies were compelled to submit to receivers' terms for good stock. Any good lots were marketable without trouble at 12c. for Chickens and 16@17c. for Turkeys, and selections brought 13@ 14c. for the former and 18@20c. for the latter. These figures were realized solely on account of scarcity, and though the same cause may sustain them to-day, they cannot be depended upon for shipments after the holidays.

PETROLEUM.—Receipts, 2100 barrels crude. The market was dull and nominally unchanged at 7c. asked for refined in barrels, and 10½c. for do. in cases. We quote car lots for home use at 8½c. for standard white and 12½c. for Royal, 150 test.

HAY AND STRAW.—We quote No. 1 Western and York State Hay at $19; exceptional choice cars at $19.50@20; No. 2 and mixed do., $16@18; inferior do., $10@13. Rye Straw, $15@16.

SEEDS.—Clover was quoted at 6@7c. for poor up to 8@8½c. for fair to prime in round lots, but these figures were wholly nominal, as there was no disposition to trade in wholesale lines. Small lots of choice recleaned sold by jobbers at 9@9½c. Flax was held at $1.40, with $1.38 bid for pure.

FEED.—Sales of 1 car prime spring Bran at $20; 2 cars do. winter do. early at $22; 1 car do. do. at $21.50, 3 cars good do. at the close at $21; 1 car red middlings at $20; 1 car brown do. at $32, and 1 car white do. at $23, all on track.

THE TRUE ORANGE BELT.

Suggestions as to Climate and Soil Suitable for this Fruit.

The interest in orange culture is increasing every year, and many persons in Kentucky are contemplating purchasing land in Florida and putting out orange groves. It is of the utmost importance that they should select a locality as nearly frost-proof as possible, so that they do not get out of range of transportation. The idea is to be as near the St. John's river, or some railroad, as is consistent with freedom from frost. During the cold spell of last winter at DeLand, Orange City, and the vicinity, "no orange, lemon or lime-trees were injured, nor was the fruit on the trees the least damaged." The guavas were a little scorched, and likewise the bananas, but the staple fruits were all right. This is the section of Florida which we have commended to the favorable notice of prospective settlers of that State. The cheapness of the lands, the proximity of the St. John's river, the character of the soil, the immunity from frost, and the healthfulness of the climate, as well as the excellence of the drinking water, speak volumes in its favor. The region is rapidly filling up with a desirable class of people, and it will emphatically be the "garden spot" of the State. There are lands in the neighborhood of Orange City, Spring Garden, DeLand and Beresford which offer every condition of successful orange-growing, and parties who meditate going to Florida will save a great deal of money by going directly there, and not wandering vaguely all over the State. This section of the State which we recommend fulfils all the conditions of soil, climate, frost exemption, and nearness to market. Good schools, and post-offices, churches, stores, physicians, and agreeable society are now found there, and a region which a few years ago was an almost unbroken pine forest is now being converted into orange-groves, with handsome cottage residences everywhere visible—a pleasant and beautiful picture.—*Louisville Commercial.*

ROYAL

BAKING POWDER

Absolutely Pure.

This powder never varies. A marvel of purity, strength, and wholesomeness. More economical than the ordinary kinds, and cannot be sold in competition with the multitude of low test, short weight, alum or phosphate powders. *Sold only in cans.* Royal Baking Powder Co., New York.

What could be more desirable for your boy than a good warm Jack t or a loose-fitting Overcoat? They equip him for the coldest weather, without restraint to his activity.

See those we have. Better not let your boy see them, unless you intend to buy them. Suits for skating and all out-door exercise, made with an eye to the necessities consequent to hard usage.

A. C. YATES & CO.,
626 CHESTNUT ST.,
PHILADELPHIA.
THE LARGEST BOYS' CLOTHING HOUSE IN AMERICA.

THE BOOK TO SUIT
THE INFANT SCHOOL
AND
The Little Ones at Home
IS
THE PICTURE WORLD
with its simple stories, easy lessons, bright and pleasant picturer, chimes and jingles. Bound in the most attractive manner.
Price. with four full page colored pictures, 90c.
" without " " " " " 75c.
Special rates to Infant Schools on application.

EVERY ONE IS READY TO ADMIT
The excellence of the REV. DR. NEWTON'S Books
For CHILDREN and YOUNG PEOPLE.
His latest
THE PEARLS FROM THE EAST.
"are all gems of Bible History." The book contains about 50 full-page illustrations, and is bound with great taste, so that the "PEARLS" are in a beautiful casket. Price, $1.25.

THE
American S. S. Union,
1122 CHESTNUT ST., Phila.,
10 BIBLE HOUSE, New York,
73 RANDOLPH ST., Chicago.

Western Farm Mortgages!
$3,000,000 LOANED.
NOT A DOLLAR LOST.
TEN YEARS' EXPERIENCE.
Readers are cautioned that we have no connection with the concern called The Western Farm Mortgage Company.
Why we published its President, F. M. Perkins.
Why he sued us for $10,000 libel damages.
Why he failed to get a judgment.
Why he had the costs to pay.
What our patrons say.
Testimonials and references.
All sent free in three pamphlets of 179 pages.
J. B. WATKINS & CO.,
243 Broadway, New York. Lawrence, Kansas.

$777 A YEAR and expenses to agents. Outfit Free Address P. O. VICKERY, Augusta, Maine.

EUROPE AND THE HOLY LAND
Tourjee's Fifth Educational Excursion 1882
All Travel and Hotels first-class. More furnished for the money than in any Excursion ever offered. Special advantages secured for Sight Seeing and visiting the grandest centres of Art and Historic interest in the Old World. COMPANY SELECT, Numbers limited. 32-page Prospectus sent free. Address E. TOURJEE, Boston, Mass

PENSIONS For SOLDIERS, widows, fathers, mothers or children. Thousands yet entitled. Pensions given for loss of finger, toe, eye or rupture, varicose veins or or any Disease. Thousands of pensioners and soldiers entitled to INCREASE and BOUNTY. PATENTS procured for inventors. Soldiers land warrants procured, bought and sold. Soldiers and heirs apply for your rights at once. Send 2 stamps for Pension and Bounty laws, blanks and instructions. Fees fixed by law. We can refer to thousands of Pensioners and Clients. Address E. H. Celston & Co., U.S. Claim Atty's, Lock Box 795, Washington D. C.

BARLOW'S INDIGO BLUE | The Family Wash Blue. For sale by Grocers. WILTBERGER, Prop'r. 233 N. Second Street, Philad'a.

12 "A Violet from Mother's Grave," and 48 other popular Songs, words and music entire, all for 12 cents. PATTEN & CO., 47 Barclay Street, New York.

500 VIRGINIA FARMS AND MILLS FOR SALE or exchange. Write for free catalogue. R. B. CHAFFIN & CO., Richmond, Va.

50 Fine Mixed Cards, with name printed, 10 cents, postpaid. M. L. DORMAN, Sinclairville, N. Y.

Special Bargains
—IN—
CLOTHING
—AT—
OAK HALL.

Rough and Tumble Data.

The mill that makes these goods runs exclusively for OAK HALL.

They are all-wool, strong as cow-hide, thoroughly honest and not handsome.

One point with them is to give the greatest amount of strength and durability for the least possible price.

We have said little about them, because they have sold too fast to advertise.

We now have small lines as follows:

Men's Sack Suits . .	$10.00	They are
Large Boys' Sack Suits . .	$7.50	
Large Boys' Blouse Suits . .	$4.50	Bargains
Large Boys' Overcoats . .	$7.00	
Small Boys' Overcoats . .	$7.00	*de facto.*

We cannot speak too strongly of the solidity and goodness of these goods.

WANAMAKER & BROWN,
OAK HALL, SIXTH AND MARKET.

REVISED DESCRIPTIVE CIRCULAR
—OF—
DE LAND, Florida.

The village of De Land is located five miles east of our landing, on the St. John's River, where all river steamboats pass; very near the geographical centre, north and south of Volusia County, and almost in the centre of the

GREAT ORANGE BELT.

This place is about twenty-five miles from the Atlantic Ocean, and is almost constantly favored with a tempered

SEA BREEZE,

and from its elevation above the river, its location among the pines, and its isolation from all standing water, is peculiarly adapted to the necessities of invalids. This belt of land is about twenty miles long, and averages about five miles wide, is gently undulating, and, in our immediate vicinity, somewhat hilly. Our lands are

UNSURPASSED IN FERTILITY

by any pine land in the state. In our village, which is only five years old, we have a

FINE SCHOOL BUILDING,

used also for union Sunday school and church services. A Baptist Church is now being built, costing $3,000. Methodists and Episcopalians are also preparing to build. The Presbyterians have preaching every Sunday in the school-house. We have daily mails, three general merchandire stores, one of the largest in South Florida, a drug store, millinery and notion store, furniture store, and livery stable, and two steam saw-mills.

THE FLORIDA AGRICULTURIST,

a large eight page weekly, is published here, and is a valuable paper for those desiring information about Florida. We have a Bell Telephone line in successful operation between our village and our landing on the St. J hn's River, and a railroad from our landing *via* De Land to the Atlantic Coast is chartered with a land grant of 8,840 acres per mile. Our hotels and boarding houses afford good fare at reasonable prices. Passengers will find a conveyance at De Land landing on arrival of the up mail boat daily, Sundays excepted, and a carriage will be sent upon order by telephone at other times.

For information of invalids we will add that several good physicians are settled in our midst, cultivating oranges as a business, but affording excellent medical aid when required. They report the following

REMARKABLE HEALTH RECORD:

"During the years 1878, 1879 and 1880, within a circuit of six miles diameter, De Land being the centre, with a population averaging over 250, many of whom came here invalids, there have been but four deaths. Two were infants under six months, and two were men who came here sick." 1881 has been so far equally healthful.]

A CHAIN OF LAKES

northwest of us affords protection from frost so perfect that the extreme cold of Dec. 29, 1880, did not injure our orange trees or fruit.

We are offering these choice lands to actual settlers at from $10 to $30 per acre. Village lots and improved property for sale also.

For further particulars call on, or address

J. Y. PARCE, De Land, Volusia Co., Fla.,
or, H. A. DE LAND, Fairport Monroe Co., N. Y.

SOMERVILLE (N. J.) LADIES' SEMINARY.
LANGUAGES. MUSIC. ORATORY

50,000 SOLD!!! AGENTS WANTED for Life of GARFIELD
His early life and career as soldier and statesman; his election, administration, assassination, heroic struggle for life, wonderful medical treatment, blood-poisoning, removal to Elberon, death, etc. *Profusely illustrated.* Splendid portrait of him, his wife, mother; scene of the shooting; Guiteau in his cell; Surreons and Cabinet. The *only complete* work yet out. *A fortune for agents who speak quick.* Sale is immense. 50,000 sold. 50,000 in press. Outfit 50c. Address HUBBARD BROS., 723 Chestnut St., Philadelphia.

THE ORIGINAL AND GENUINE
MENEELY BELL FOUNDRY.
ESTABLISHED 1826. Bells for all purposes. Warranted satisfactory and durable.
MENEELY & CO., WEST TROY, N. Y.

CLINTON H. MENEELY BELL CO.,
Successors to Meneely & Kimberly,
BELL FOUNDERS, TROY, N. Y.
Manufacture a superior quality of BELLS. Special attention given to CHURCH BELLS. Catalogues sent free to parties needing bells.

KNABE
PIANOFORTES
UNEQUALLED IN
Tone, Touch, Workmanship & Durability
WILLIAM KNABE & CO.,
Nos. 204 and 206 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore.
No. 112 Fifth Avenue, New York.

$5 to $20 per day at home. Samples worth $5 free Address STINSON & Co., Portland, Maine

RIDGE'S FOOD The MOST RELIABLE FOOD For Infants & Invalids. Used everywhere. *Not a medicine,* but a steam-cooked *food,* suited to the weakest stomach. *Take no other.* Sold by druggists. WOOLRICH & Co. on every label.

$625,000 to loan at 5 per cent., divided, city or country. D. H. SHOWERS & CO., Fifth and Walnut Streets, Philadelphia, Pa.

AN UNPARALLELED OFFER.
24 STOPS.
15 OCTAVE REEDS.
ONLY
$63

New Style No. 11000.—Dimensions: Height, 78 ins.; Depth, 26 ins.; Length, 49 ins.

DANIEL F. BEATTY
The most successful house in the World.
WRITE FOR ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE.

This Magnificent CABINET Organ
With an elegant Stool, Book and Music, boxed and delivered on board cars at Washington, New Jersey, for
Only $63.00
Satisfaction absolutely guaranted or money refunded after one year's use.

24 STOPS.
SPECIFICATIONS, as follows:
1 Cello, 8 ft tone. 2 Melodia, 8 ft. tone. 3 Clarabella, 8 ft. tone. 4 Manual Sub-Bass, 16 ft. 5 Bourdon, 16 ft. tone. 6 Saxaphone 8 ft. tone. 7 Viol di Gamba, 8 ft. tone. 8 Diapason, 8 ft. tone. 9 Viola Dolce, 4 ft. tone. 10 Grand Expressione. 11 French Horn, 8 ft. tone. 12 Harp Æolienne. 13 Vox Humana. 14 Echo, 8 ft. tone. 15 Dulciana, 8 ft. tone. 16 Clarionet, 8 ft. tone. 17 Voix Celeste, 8 ft. tone. 18 Violina, 4 ft. 19 Vox Jubilate, 8 ft. 20 Piccolo, 4 ft. 21 Coupler Harmonique. 22 Orchestral Forte. 23 Grand Organ Knee Stop. 24 Right Organ Knee Stop.

BEWARE! Do not think of buying an Organ that does not contain an Octave Coupler, a stop which doubles the power of the instrument. All of my Organs have it. This Organ is a triumph of the Organ Builder's art. It is very beautiful in appearance, being exactly like the above cut. The case is of solid Walnut, profusely ornamented with hand carving and expensive fancy veneers. The music pocket is of the most beautiful design extant. It has the best rubber Upright Bellows, with steel springs, rollers for moving, polished metal pedals, and handles, etc., etc. It is deserving of a place in the millionaire's parlor, and would ornament the boudoir of a princess.

REMIT by Money Order, Express Prepaid, Bank Draft, or Registered Letters. Money refunded and all freight charges paid if not as represented. Come to Washington, New Jersey, and see Factory (3 acres of space within walls of building) and select in person. Elegant carriage for visitors meets all trains.

Address or call upon DANIEL F. BEATTY, Washington, New Jersey.

BEATTY
PIANOFORTES.

A RECENT ADVERTISEMENT.

A.—BEATTY'S PIANOFORTES.—"Magnificent holiday presents; square grand pianofortes, four very handsome round corners, rosewood cases, three unisons, Beatty's matchless iron frames, stool, book, cover, boxed, $222.75 to $297.50; catalogue prices, $500 to $1,000; satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded, after one year's use; upright pianofortes, $125 to $255; catalogue prices, $500 to $800; standard pianofortes of the universe, as thousands testify, write for mammoth list of testimonials; Beatty's cabinet organs, cathedral, church, chapel, parlor, $30 upward; visitors welcome; free carriage meets passengers; illustrated catalogue (holiday edition) free. Address or call on DANIEL F. BEATTY, Washington, New Jersey."

IMPORTANT!!!

I want it distinctly understood that I am prepared to offer to the public greater inducements to buy PIANOFORTES FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS than ever before. Why buy Grand, Square and Upright Pianos and pay manufacturers such enormous profits. Before you decide to purchase a Piano elsewhere, stop! Write at once for valuable information. Tricks of the trade Where the cost comes in; how a $297.50 Piano cost $1000 through agents—profits of from $500 to $700 made on a single sale. A $1000 Piano sold to one man for $800, to his neighbor, the same Piano precisely, for $950, to another for $650. *Is this just?* I have one price, no agents, sales are made direct, my catalogue has no fictitious prices—ONE PRICE TO ALL.